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MARYLAND

DEVOTED TO
AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE,



FARMER:

LIVE STOCK
and RURAL ECONOMY.

Vol. XXI. BALTIMORE, JANUARY, 1884.

No. 1.

A Happy New Year to All.

THE NEW YEAR.

"The year is dying! All its griefs
And joys must pass away!
The regions of the past have claimed
The old year from to-day.

The sun has shown its last farewell,
As clear and golden red
He gazed around, and slowly sank
Into his azure bed.

The moon has risen pale and cold
To watch the old year die;
And silently she marks the hour,
Receives the latest sigh.

Laden with dead leaves comes the wind,
And spreads them o'er his pall,
And Nature, gazing mutely on
Watches the old year fall.

And from the solemn village church
There tolls its fun'ral knell;
Sadly amid night's silent sounds
That solitary bell.

But hark! from far, a joyous chime
Comes stealing on the ear;
It is a peal to greet thy birth,
Thou young, thou fair New Year!"

The present year, 1884, does truly dawn on us most brightly with cheering hopes that it will equal its predecessor in the fullness of its blessings. It starts as the heir to the dead year's wealth. May that wealth be dispensed with no niggard hand and the glories and benefits conferred by the old year be showered by the new one in still greater profusion upon the happy land we now inhabit! Our people have much, oh! how much to be thankful for and have reason to expect in the future from a kind Creator, who has thus far singularly blessed this young Republic; from its feeble infancy up to its present

lusty manhood, great and powerful among the nations of the world, centuries old, while it is barely above one century, and in that brief period of a nation's history, is recognized as the asylum of the oppressed of all countries—the land of liberty and fraternity—the garden and granary of the World. By frugality, brotherly love, temperance, industry—both mental and physical,—study of natural laws as applicable to agricultural pursuits and the close attention to the recorded experience of practical tillers of the soil, with a perfect reliance upon the goodness and wisdom of God, we trust, our people of the American Union will continue to deserve and reap the reward of health, good seasons, and the varied blessings of a Divine Providence.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Experiment with Corn in Poor Land with Fertilizers.

With the view of watching the effect of different fertilizers on poor land the past season two acres of such land was rented from a neighbor, and in due season operations were commenced, using different brands of phosphate, among them the plain South Carolina phosphate reduced to a very fine condition by a dusting mill. An unusual quantity of each was used; between each application a row was left without any being used. The experiment with each proved an entire failure, and I think I can suggest a reason for the failure, which I think will explain the ill success attending my trouble..

I have known the land for eighteen years

and during that time I have never seen a paying crop grow on it, although I consider the land as such that can be brought to the highest state of cultivation, from the fact that it contains the proper proportion of sand and clay—the base of all soils. The land is in a very fine condition, mingled with equally fine clay, and almost entirely free of carbonaceous matter, rendering it nearly impervious to the free circulation of air and water, for upon examination after a rain I found the moisture reached but an inch or two below the surface, the compact sand and clay preventing any percolation of the water which either run off in a heavy rain or evaporated after a light rain, keeping the land cold and depriving the roots of the influence of heat and air and water—the great agents in securing a crop of corn. To master this difficulty is the question, and the proper agent to do it is what demands the effort of the human mind. It can be done and this is the target we should all aim for; this brings me to the point that prompts this article, and there is but one element within the power of every one that can be brought in play, and in doing so my motto is imitate nature. As I said before, the base of all soil from the highest hill to the lowest valley is sand and clay, which often contains every element necessary for a remunerating crop, namely, phosphorus, potassa, lime, which are the immovable elements. To secure the movable ones, air and water, i. e. carbonic acid, and I mention this first because it occupies the most important position; oxygen comes next, followed by hydrogen, and lastly, nitrogen, the least of all the movable elements entering either the vegetable or animal kingdom. To make a soil of sand and clay that will admit these important movable elements, nature has provided a slow but sure means. The small minute portion of carbonic acid found in the air is brought into play and there is no other source for a supply of carbon but by the decomposition of this speck of acid found in the air. All who are familiar with this peculiar binary compound of carbon and oxygen, fully understand the force which holds them together, and there is but one familiar way of separating them, and this is through the vital power of plant life. The black color peculiar to productive soils, rendering them porous and absorbing is due to carbon (charcoal) the

base of humus and humid acid, and to secure this, plants of a low order are made to grow, which from time to time draws from the atmosphere its speck of carbonic acid, decomposing the same and deposits the carbon in the form of cellulose or woody matter, which in time, loses its hydrogen and oxygen and deposits the carbon in the particles of sand and clay, along with the immovable elements secured from mother earth, and in time every condition is reached to bring in play the movable as well as the immovable elements necessary to build up a stalk of corn or stem of wheat loaded with grain, for without the stalk, composed almost entirely of carbon and water, there can be no grain, and unless a full supply of carbon and water reaches the roots, no cob or corn will appear, no matter of what quality the fertilizer may have been; and here comes in the oft repeated story of a failure of fertilizers and an honest manufacturer may be abused as a fraud and cheat. And now I reach the moral of my story.

When one has such land as I have spoken of, which by long and bad tillage the original soil has degenerated by the burning out by slow combustion of the carbon and it has passed to its old home and the land has settled down into stiff, heavy condition, impervious to air and water, let the first effort be to restore a soil by turning under everything in the shape of carbonaceous or vegetable matter; let it be leaves from the pine or oak, or what is better, if they will grow a good growth of clover, weeds, peas, cotton seed, soon the rotting process commences and humus or vegetable mould will creep out, and finally, carbon, the great absorbant of gases, follows, which has the power of drawing within its folds a hundred times its bulk of nitrogen, and by its slow combustion forming carbonic acid, the great solvent of silica or sand which reaches the plant and deposited, gives strength to the stalk or stem and covers the grain (starch and gluten) with its protecting mantle.

A few years ago I had a field in just the condition of my experimented corn, where fertilizers proved as bad a failure; and after, even an ordinary rain, to walk over it a pair of grim boots was needed, and the running water would wash the soil and fill the ditches; now after an ordinary rain the same track could be followed with a pair

of pumps on, without much danger of a wet foot: the water sinks and every handful of a good fertilizer tells the spot it was applied to, and I think the field has risen several inches.

This carbonaceous matter seemed to act like a little yeast in flour. The result being the same, carbonic acid being formed from the decomposition of the starch of the flour, and between the two (starch and woody matter) but little difference exists, both being composed of the same carbon and water, as follows: starch 72 parts carbon and 90 parts water; and woody matter, carbon 72 parts and water 72, the latter having the advantage of carbon.

On a field of corn just gathered I have estimated the crop at thirty bushels per acre, and to secure this, the stalks, cobs, &c., needed at least forty-five hundred lbs. of carbon and the same of water, and am satisfied had the soil been in such a condition as to admit of a free circulation of air and water, double the corn would have been raised, as the immovable elements, I am sure, were there to bring a much larger crop.

The owner of my experimental patch, an old farmer of the neighborhood, I am sure, will testify that a few years ago the above field would not have brought five bushels to the acre, even with a heavy coat of fertilizer: and the change has been brought about by the free use of carbonaceous matter, such as I have spoken of, much of which had passed through the animal, although this is not at all necessary as the animal adds nothing to it but takes away much of the starch and some of the mineral matter.

One word in conclusion, secure a soil, which means carbonaceous matter followed by humus, and then apply a fertilizer containing the proper *inorganic* elements and I feel assured there will not be such complaints about dishonest dealers in them, although I *know* there is just cause of complaint with such stuff as is sometimes palmed on the farmers. Every year convinces me of the worthlessness of *old leather*, dried lungs, livers, guts and the usual refuse of slaughter houses, oleomargarine factories, &c.; such material will never restore worn-out lands; something of a lower order is necessary; something more fixed in its nature; more permanent in its work, and not like flesh and blood that is only held together by the force of

life—a little more nitrogen introduced in such material and they would go off like nitro-glycerine. No animal material with four elements, i. e., quaternary compounds, have the power of holding together, hence in a few days pass away; but we are told by the advocate of ammonia that in passing away during the decomposition a bite of ammonia is formed from the nitrogen and hydrogen.

On the main field, where my corn experiment took place, I have now in wheat using a mixture of S. C. Phosphate and Kainit, and on a portion of it a heavy dressing of sulphate of ammonia was used, and up to this time, Dec. 1, I can see no difference in the field except in my corn patch where nothing was used at seeding time, and this is decidedly the best. My spring application seems to be coming in play, and this can be accounted for by the wheat being a slow grower does not need such a rapid supply of carbon and water which is so necessary for corn.

If 30 bushels of corn per acre needs two and a quarter tons of movable elements—carbon, oxygen, hydrogen and nitrogen—the reader can calculate how much will be needed for a hundred bushels; hence the importance of the land being in a condition to draw from the air and water this great quantity.

A. P. SHARP.

Rock Hall, Kent Co, Md.

Butter, Cheese, Eggs and Poultry.

The National Butter, Cheese and Egg Association closed its eleventh annual session on the 6th ultimo. A report was read showing that the total value of butter, cheese, eggs and poultry marketed in the United States in 1883, amounts to more than \$600,000,000. The value of the milk and cream sold and not manufactured into butter and cheese during the same period is over \$100,000,000. Colonel Van Valkenberg reported that the value of the receipts in New York city for 1883 were as follows: Butter, \$22,600,000; cheese, \$14,600,000; poultry, \$4,300,000, and eggs, \$10,000,000. Reports were presented from cities. A despatch was received from New York Mercantile and other produce exchanges, congratulating the association upon the success of this meeting.

Farm Work for January.

This first month of the year is usually replete with good intentions, that, we are sorry to believe, are often put aside as soon as entertained. But there is one practical and useful hint, we respectfully yet most urgently desire to call to your attention, while you are resolving upon a course of guidance for your coming year of a farmer's life. It is the all-important fact that you should keep Farm Books as strictly as you keep your mercantile and professional books. Begin at once. The amateur farmer in after years will be well repaid by looking over such account books, by the undisputed evidence of his success or failure in regard to some favorite animal, or some theory in regard to the culture of a particular crop, or in reference to his peculiar idea of improving the soil of some special field. The practical farmer who has made agriculture his means of livelihood cannot well afford to run a farm, unless he keeps regularly a strict account book. Begin then at once and open a general account vs. the farm. Both a debit and credit account, charging the farm with 6 per cent. upon its cost and the cost of buildings, and 10 per cent. as loss on the gross inventory of farm utensils and implements, and stock of every description, and the full amount of such other expenses as have occurred during the year, such as hire of labor, seeds, fertilizers, taxes, blacksmith work and other repairing and improvements. Then credit it with full house rent, fire wood, vegetables, meats, butter, milk, keep of pleasure horses, poultry, percentage of increase in value, sales of crops of all sorts, sales of stock, &c., and a fair percentage on the increased value of stock during the year. The difference between the footings of these accounts will show whether the farm is a paying investment or not. Every January a full taking of stock should be done as accurately as the merchant annually takes his account of stock on hand. Thus every farmer knows exactly how he stands, as does the careful, prudent merchant. Other accounts might be kept if the farmer has the time, and would be very interesting to him in after years and be a safe guide for his government in the future. We allude to separate accounts opened with each field, and with such special animals or industries as might be desired to test their values, or the system under which the same was treated. There is no calculating the pleasure and the profit, the accurate keeping of such accounts would afford, while it really

would occupy but a small time each day, and the devotion of those few moments would soon become a habit, so agreeable that it would be indispensable.

Threshing Grain.

The present time is often the best and most convenient to thresh grain that still remains in bulk. Grain usually brings a fair price during this month.

Surface Drains.

Examine and keep open surface drains in the grain fields. It is a very important duty that must not be neglected if the farmer does not wish to sustain great loss by drowning the tender plants.

Fire Wood.

Be sure to stack convenient for use, all the wood wanted for this winter's burning, and cut and cord enough for the next year. It is useless to dwell upon the great economy of dry and seasoned wood for fuel over green wood. The hauling is half saved, and as much is saved in the heat that *dry* gives out over *green* wood.

Stock.

Attend well to all your stock and be not satisfied unless each class are well housed or sheltered and have dry, warm beds, with a plentiful supply of food and clean water, with access to salt and lime and ashes at all times.

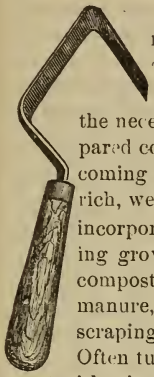
Compost Heaps.

Make these as often and as large as you can. Read what is said of them in Garden Work for this month, and profit by the hint. You will bless us for reminding you, if you will only take the trouble to carry out faithfully our suggestion.

Fowls.

Read and reflect upon the great value commercially these feathered domestics are, and remember what a necessitous luxury they are to the farmer and his household. Give them warm, comfortable houses; room out doors for exercise in fair weather; access to slacked lime and ashes and sand for dusting; broken bones or bone dust for occasional eating; plentiful supply of fresh water, not too cold; parched corn and chopt meat to promote early laying; regular feeding on grain of some sort once a day; frequent meals of warm vegetables and bran or corn husks, and access daily to some green vegetable like cabbage or chopped turnips, &c. A small expense and trouble will in the end return a great reward. No stock on the farm is more profitable for the amount of cost of attention and feeding than poultry.

Garden Work for January.



We have no suggestions to make for this month in the Garden, beyond the re-iteration of our oft repeated remarks about the necessity of having a large well prepared compost heap, to furnish in the coming spring and summer a source of rich, well rotted and fine plant food for incorporating with the soil and top-dressing growing plants. To compose the compost heap, use stable manure, cow manure, leaves, forest mould, road scrapings, plaster, ashes, soap-suds, &c. Often turn the heap over, and keep it moist with rain water and liquid manure in equal portions. The heap should be under cover to keep the snows and rains off.

Hot-beds and cold frames require attention. Raise the sashes on all fair, mild days, so as to give the plants all the air and light they require, and when necessary give them a moderate sprinkle of tepid water. Trim small fruits if not done before. Look to the walks and borders, and see that they are in good winter trim.

We take this occasion to call attention to a small, but very useful garden implement of which we herewith give a cut, patented by S. J. Haseltine, called the "Hand Weeder and Scraper." It is invaluable to the florist and gardener, simple, well made, works to perfection and costs only 50 cents, post paid. It will save a world of tedious hand work in weeding and thinning onions, beets, turnips, celery, strawberries, &c. Now is the time to secure this valuable little instrument, which will be supplied on application to the proprietor of the MARYLAND FARMER. It is highly recommended by all who have been so fortunate as to use it.

Consumption Cured.

An old physician retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma, and all Throat and Lung affections, also a positive and radical cure for nervous debility and all nervous complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellows. Actuated by this motive and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who desire it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail by addressing with stamp, naming this paper. W. A. NOYES, 149 Power's Block, Rochester, N. Y.—*

Our Farmers Olio.

A rancheress of Washoe Valley, Nevada, has invented a novel method of preserving eggs for winter use. During the summer she breaks the eggs, pours the contents into bottles, which are tightly corked and sealed, when they are placed in the cellar, neck down. She claims the contents of the bottles come out as fresh as when put in.

SOUTH AMERICA is destined to be the next great beef-producing region of the world. It is estimated that in two years from now the number of cattle in the Argentine Confederation will number 28,000,000, against 13,000,000 in 1877. The enormous increase in the number of cattle has brought down the price so, that, good fat steers are selling at \$6 to \$8.

A writer in *Farmer and Fruit Grower* says:

"If the agricultural colleges and experiment stations would make disinterested trials of the new fruits and give the public unbiased opinions of the character and merits of each fruit, it might prove of as much value in their bulletins as some of the lengthy accounts about the albumenoids and carbohydrates. Nurserymen's circulars are generally made to puff those plants in which their pecuniary interest predominates.

ARTICHOKES have been grown for swine several years at the Michigan Agricultural College. The method of management has been to have a small patch of artichokes convenient to the swine pens, upon which the breeding sows were turned early in the spring, and allowed to harvest the roots for themselves. The crop is thus grown with very little labor, since it requires no harvesting, the roots remaining in the ground all winter, and it furnishes succulent food for the sows just when it is most needed and most difficult to obtain from other sources. Prof. Johnson, farm superintendent, is so well pleased with the results of this management that he is enlarging the artichoke plantation.

FREAKS and variations in vegetables have been numerous at the New York experimental station. One of the beets planted for seed, instead of throwing up a seed

shoot, emitted branches from the root, and these branches, coming to the surface, threw out leaves, thus forming a cluster of roots, which have grown as annuals, showing no tendency to seeding. A potato plant developed tubers in abundance in the axils of its leaves. An onion of the white globe variety, sprouted into a top onion, the cluster of small bulbs replacing the top formation. Bi-annuals became annuals, four rows of sorghum and salsify grown from seeds from plants which were bi-annuals last year are furnishing annual plants this year, thus showing how easily and quickly the habits of some plants can be changed by selection.

The California dairy interest possess a capital of \$15,000,000, and employs 6,000 laborers.

Maine has a canning establishment that this year preserved 70,000 quarts of pumpkins.

The Delaware output this year of canned fruit and vegetables is estimated at 4,000,000 cans.

New York Agricultural Experiment Station.

BULLETIN NO. LXXI.

GENENA, N. Y., Dec. 1, 1883.

A single analysis of a single sample for the purposes of generalization is often quite misleading. When the substance sought has been gained to the plant through a course of selection, conscious or otherwise, there will usually be found a much smaller variation than where no selection has been exerted. Thus, the albumenoid of corn or grain will vary within narrow limits, as between various samples, while the sugar of the corn stalk will show a wider variation. The Waushakum corn kernel, various samples furnishing 12.06 and 11.87 per cent. of albumenoid in two analyses; the albumenoid in this case meaning the feeding value of the grain, which has been valued and sought for by generations of mankind. The sugar in the stalk of the same corn testing 8.73 per cent. on September 15, and 9.95 per cent. on September 16th, and 6.18 per cent. on September 30th; the sugar being a product not especially sought for in the selection of seed for growth.

As a general rule, then, a single analysis, save in exceptional instances, may prove a very unsafe guide, and chemical work, to benefit the farmer through use in selecting products, must be carried forward upon a rather extended scale, as well as be justly applied to problems under discussion.

The tobacco plant contains a large portion of ash constituent, and if special fertilization were to influence the ash content of a plant, this would be the one naturally suggested for trial, as with so much ash the effect of a manure upon its constituent would be expected to be more marked than in the case of a plant possessing little ash. In January, having seen it stated as the result of a trial in England with the cabbage, that the plants grown in soils to which sulphate of iron had been supplied absorbed larger quantities of soluble iron and soluble phosphates than plants not so treated, we concluded to fertilize a series of tobacco plants with sulphate of iron, and compare the ash analysis with those not so treated. The results are as below:—

	Fertilized with lime.	Fertilized with sulphate of iron.
Total ash.....	23 27 p'r ct	21.87 per ct.
Potash.....	26.15 p'r ct.	24 76 per ct.
Soda.....	1.50 p'r ct.	1.75
Magnesia.....	5 20 p'r ct.	5.15
Lime.....	28.26 p'r ct	28 23
Oxide of iron..	1.10 p'r ct	1.42
Phosphoric acid	2.38 p'r ct	2.68
Sulphuric acid..	5.44 p'r ct	5 43
Silica.....	8 17 p'r ct.	9.92
Chlorine.....	66 p'r ct.	.74
Carbonic acid..	20.83 p'r ct.	20.84
Unconsu'd car'n	.38 p'r ct	.41
	99 98	101.33

We observe here no particular increase of the oxide of iron or phosphoric acid in No. 2, as over No. 1.

If the application of a substance not a manure in itself can cause the plant to feed more largely from applied manure, it becomes of importance to determine this fact, as offering, if correct, a means of calling in to greater product the fertility of our fields or the fertility that we may apply.

E. LEWIS STURTEVANT, Director.

"BUCHU-PAIBA."

Quick, complete cure, all annoying Kidney, Bladder and urinary Diseases. \$1. Druggists.

Editorial Notes of A Northern Tour.

BOSTON EXHIBITIONS AND THE CONNECTICUT STATE FAIR, &C.

After leaving Lewiston, Me., I returned to hotel "Vendome," Boston, to recuperate for a brief period. During my stay I again visited the two Mechanic Fairs, and also the Massachusetts's Horticultural Annual Exhibition then in its height. These three shows were each in itself well worth my long tour North. The Horticultural Society made a magnificent exhibition. At it I met Mr. Smith of the Botanic Gardens in Washington city, and he said to me that he saw here some of the finest and rarest plants he had ever seen. This was a great compliment to the Exhibition, for I know no one, who is better qualified to judge the merits of plants and flowers than Mr. Smith.

From Boston I went direct to the Connecticut State Fair, held at Meriden. Here I met with Mr. Sedwick, formerly editor of the Connecticut Farmer, through whom I became acquainted with the courteous officers of the State Fair, and learned much about the farming and stock-raising of that State. During my examination of what was to be seen at this State Fair, I met my old friend, T. S. Gold, Secretary to the State Board of Agriculture, and regret that my limited time and anxiety to get once more home, prevented my accepting his kind invitation to visit him, and thereby have the privilege of enjoying his genial company.

The exhibition was highly creditable to the State, having all the various departments crowded with excellent exhibits. But the great feature was the working oxen—150 yoke of splendid working oxen. I had been amazed at the grand show of cattle on the Maine State Fair grounds, embracing so great a number of well-trained work-oxen, and in a former letter expressed my opinion that better trained

animals could not be found in the Bovine race, but I must give the palm in this respect to the Connecticut oxen, and take back partly what I then said. Here was the evidence of what kindness, firmness and patience will accomplish in the education of this useful farm animal. As an instance of the wonderful performances of a few yokes of steers I saw, I give a description by our esteemed friend of the *New England Farmer*, which I can honestly endorse, of four trained steers owned by Norris Holcomb of Bloomfield, and E. W. Lyon of Burlington, the former having a yoke of Jerseys, the latter a fine pair of Devons, both handled by Mr. Lyon in a capital manner:

"The exhibition occupied about an hour and a half, the evolutions including kneeling, walking on knees, sitting on haunches, standing on boxes, jumping through hoops, walking up steep inclined planes forwards and backwards, and "teetering" and "seesawing" on long planks. A trained boy could hardly have obeyed orders more accurately than these dumb beasts. The trial of working oxen on drag was made at the same time of the trial of steers and created much interest."

From Meriden I went to the beautiful town of New Haven, celebrated for its classic and literary institutions and the refinement and culture of its inhabitants. The next day I visited the "Connecticut Experiment Station" in charge of Prof. S. W. Johnson, director. Prof. Allen and C. H. Farnam, Esq., accompanied me, and we found Mr. Johnson at his post, who kindly showed us the whole establishment and its workings with which we were much pleased, being self assured that it must result in great good to the State and to agricultural science.

With unfeigned regret I left the pleasant Director, and soon after bid farewell to New Haven and its people, who had made our visit so delightful, and started on my homeward journey, which ended pleasantly by arriving once again in Baltimore. W.

For the Maryland Farmer.

A Warning.

The cry is now for mixed farming in the South. Less cotton and more grass and corn, is given as the panacea for all the ills of the Southern farmer. There is much truth in this, but I am forced to believe an equal amount of error also. It is very true that the provision crops should receive more attention in the South. The Southern planter should board at home and not at St. Louis, Cincinnati or Baltimore. In ten years he has paid the North for provision crops enough to make the South rich. The farmer can not be prosperous when he buys the great part of wheat he eats and what he wears, it matters now whether he lives North or South; he must pay a profit to too many others. The South should raise the greater part of its own provisions. It can do this and not raise less cotton either. If it did this it would be more prosperous, for a time at least.

So far I have no fault to find with those who urge mixed farming in the South. But when they declare that it will lead to the enriching of the planter by leading to the enriching of his land, then I am at odds with them. Because the Northern farmer is more prosperous than his Southern brother Northern agriculture is urged upon the South. Because the farms of the North are better improved and have a more prosperous appearance than those south of Mason's and Dixon's line, it is all attributed to the difference between the agriculture of the two sections. This may not all be false, but it is true in a very small part. It must be remembered that the South staked its money and industrial resources to a very great extent upon the issue of the war, and lost. It was defeated; and while many a household circle chair was made forever vacant, many of the living were financially crippled and wounded almost to death by loss of treasure. Victorious and defeated armies swept back and forth over the South, subsisting upon it, and often destroying what they could not consume and carry away. This, more than the agriculture he has followed, has made the Southern farmer poor. And while I would not detract one iota from the glory of Northern farming or uncover one item of its shame, it is not fair or logical to attribute all of the

difference in prosperity between the Northern and the Southern farmer to the difference between the farming of the two sections.

I wish to warn the Southern farmer that Northern agriculture is not so profitable, and faultless that he should accept and practice it just as it is. Where the land has been tilled as long and was no more fertile when virgin the farms of the North are as badly impoverished as those of the South. Corn, and grass, and wheat may be made to soon exhaust the available plant food of the North. Even our fertile prairie land of the newer States are showing signs of waning fertility. When the Southern farmer adopts the agriculture of the North with a view of increasing the wealth of his land and of himself he must adopt the very best methods and practices of our most advanced Northern farmers. Otherwise, he will meet with sore disappointment.

To make his land more fertile and himself more prosperous, the Southern farmer is urged to engage more largely in Stock-raising. It is true that grain raising solely must impoverish the land unless commercial fertilizers are largely used, and that feeding the grain and stover to animals upon the farm, may retain its fertility. But I wish to warn the Southern farmer that it only *may* do so. Of itself it will not. The farmer has an important work to do. Stock must not only be reared and fed, but their manure must be carefully saved, and judiciously applied to the land. For years the dairy farms have been noted features of Orange county, New York. But it is said they show signs of serious financial disability on the part of their owners and of great loss of fertility themselves, of which fact the piles of unused manure lying in the barn-yards furnish an explanation and reason for. Let me warn Southern farmers if they too neglect to save and apply the manure made by the animals, they will find to their cost that stock raising of itself will not give fertility to the land of the South, or prosperity to its farmers.

JOHN M. STAHL.

FOR PARALYSIS, Neuralgia, Rheumatism, Sprains and Bruises, Stonebraker's Liniment has no equal; it is soothing, healing and penetrating. 25 cents.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Stock on the Farm.

The time has been when farmers thought little, or nothing about growing and feeding cattle, and creating a home market for their produce. There are a great many farmers who do not believe in raising cattle and sheep, simply because they do not understand the principles of making the business a success. Some are so obstinate even as to refuse to give the business a trial, and laugh at you when you undertake to convince them of their great error. To such men I have nothing to say, except that they leave others alone. To the listening and wide-awake farmer I wish to say a few words, which are the result of observation and experience. The occupation of farming is quite different to-day from what it was fifty, or even twenty years ago. The farming of to-day we call improved farming, and I believe we have a right to do so. This right is handed to us year after year. In all ages there have been men who thought and worked in advance of the times. These are the men to whom we are indebted for our present prosperity. All honor to them.

Every farmer knows, or ought to know, that continual cropping will ultimately cause the soil to become poor and thin. This statement is easily verified by a visit to a New England farm, which has been under continuous cultivation for perhaps at least a century. To restore the fertility of the soil, to lessen hard labor and to bring more money to the farmer's pocket is why I advocate the propriety of raising more stock in the Eastern and Middle States. Unless you have been in the habit of buying and applying fertilizing agents to your soil—and I notice that comparatively few farmers ever do this—it is fast being exhausted. This continual subtracting from and never adding to, the soil is poor farming. Every bushel of grain, and every ton of hay that is hauled to market is taking away so much soil, while on the other hand if the farmer would invest a few dollars in a drove of good steers, and feed his produce so far as practicable to them, he would not detract from his soil, for he would have the manure to utilize, and he would get a higher price for his produce, which has now been converted into butchers beef. In the last decade it has been demonstrated that for

every dollar the farmer expends in purchasing and feeding good fatlings, he will receive a per centage of increase over all expenses, one-fourth greater than he can make in the old way of raising and hauling, besides having the means to increase instead of decrease the value of his land. Not only can the manure be added to the soil, but each field in turn can be given a much needed rest. Clover is the best thing where artificial pastures must be made, not only because it is good for the stock, but because it is good for the land. It helps build up the land because its roots penetrating to a great depth bring the subterraneous fertility nearer the surface, and because its absorbing top draws a large amount of carbonic acid gas from the atmosphere, which when the plant is decomposed enters, chemically, into the composition of the soil. For these two reasons, and the additional one, that its large roots render the soil more porous. Clover is the best known plant to restore and retain the virginity of old mother earth.

The fact that raising stock lessens hard labor is obvious, I think, to all. It gives change and variety to farm life, which otherwise is often very monotonous. It is a pleasant job, in fact one of the most pleasing to be found.

Brother farmer, begin now and try this plan of improved farming. I do not believe in rushing head long into anything that requires time and money to perfect, and run the risk of success or failure, but I believe in preparing the mind, and adapting the means to the end, a considerable time in advance. I say begin now, because I want you to meditate on, and ponder over the matter during the coming winter. Thus when spring comes, begin on a small scale, and as your experience is gaining and you become convinced of the propriety of your undertaking invest more largely. I would not advise anyone who has never had experience in cattle raising, to invest a large amount of capital in such an enterprise unless he knows that success is certain and that he don't know with any business. The tricks of any trade must be acquired first, however I will warrant that any man of good judgment and keen forethought will, in the course of three years be several dollars ahead if he undertakes to raise stock in connection with his other farming. The results of my observation and experi-

ence have convinced me that it is the best paying investment in improved farming. Quincy, Ill. U. U. WOOD.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Education for the Farm.

BY J. W. DARROW.

The theme is one, indeed, that is worn almost threadbare, as we say of an old garment, but the only way to work a reform in this, or any other direction, is to keep at it.

The common schools of the North, especially, do not meet the full requirements of the case and the farmer's boy gets through this district school with very little, I might say, no knowledge of the great principles of plant life and plant growth, of the hygiene of the farm, if we may so say, and of the many things which it would take a long time to learn by experience but which a winter's study under a competent instructor would very much improve and inform him upon.

We would not have the school-boy lay aside his arithmetic, geography and spelling book to take up botany or the science of agriculture, but we would have him give these subjects and kindred ones proper attention in connection with the "three R's." If there is not time to devote an hour of each day to these studies then have them twice or three times during the week, or perhaps set apart Friday afternoon to short lectures and recitation on the subject of botany, growth of plants and their sustenance, soils, fertilizers, stock, and the thousand things that every farmer's boy should know about. Of course, this will require a competent teacher, or, if lectures are given, a competent lecturer. Anything to give boys who are to follow farming a little insight into the broad field they are about to enter.

As sure as anything can be, the farmer of the future who has the best success, who gets the most from his acres at least expense without impoverishing his soil, is the one who like the painter will "mire brains with his work." Agricultural books and papers, will be more commonly perused, and the daily labor will be lightened because headwork will to a certain extent take the place of hand work. A job well planned is half

done. But in order to have such farmers we must give the growing generations who are to be farmers, the education that will fit them for this noble calling.

Number of Plants per Acre at given Distances.

1 foot by one foot, 43,560.
 1½ feet by 1½ feet, 19,360.
 2 feet by 2 feet, 10,890.
 2½ feet by 2½ feet, 6,969.
 4 feet by 4 feet, 2,722.
 5 feet by 5 feet, 1,742.
 3 feet by 3 feet, 4,840.
 6 feet by 6 feet, 1,210.
 9 feet by 9 feet, 537.
 12 feet by 12 feet, 163.
 15 feet by 15 feet, 302.
 18 feet by 18 feet, 144.
 50 feet by 20 feet, 103.
 25 feet by 25 feet, 70.
 30 feet by 30 feet, 40.
 40 feet by 40 feet, 27.—*Mirror and Farmer.*

Manures:

ALL manures deposited by nature are left on or near the surface. The whole tendency of manure is to go down into the soil rather than to rise from it. There is probably very little if any loss of nitrogen from evaporation of manure, unless it is put in piles so as to ferment. Rains and dews return to the soil as much ammonia in a year as is carried off in the atmosphere.

MEN of all ages who suffer from low spirits nervous debility and premature decay, may have life, health and vigor renewed by the use of the Marston Bolus treatment, without stomach medication. Consultation free. Send for descriptive treatise MARSTON REMEDY Co. 46 West 14th Street, N. Y. *

—It is found by experience that the food of healthy oxen, of whatever size, is nearly one-fifth of their own weight of turnips daily, or about one-fiftieth of their weight of hay, straw, or other dried food. So says Finlay Dan, of Scotland, and he received a gold medal for his paper on this subject.

Mother Swan's Worm Syrup.

Infallible, tasteless, harmless, cathartic; for feverishness, restlessness, worms, constipation. 25 cents.

LIVE STOCK REGISTER.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Feeding in Winter.

HOW NOT TO DO IT.

Every pound that a cow, steer, hog, sheep or horse is allowed to loose is doubly lost. Life is maintained by the constant disintegration of tissues. To supply this continual waste is the first object of food. If the matter obtained by the digestion and assimilation of food exceeds the amount required for this purpose it is deposited in the body in various forms—fat, bone, muscle—and the size of the body is increased. The quicker this surplus is added the less required to supply waste. If the materials formed from the food supplied are not sufficient to supply this waste, the vital functions appropriate to the purposes of life, first, the fat and then the muscle in the body and the animal becomes poorer and smaller in body. The amount thus lost must not only be replaced but the waste of the body provided for while this increase is again being added. It thus happens that, a pound of flesh lost, is lost twice. It will require at least two pounds to replace it. The important point, then, is not to so feed that flesh will be lost. The farm stock must not be allowed to grow poorer in body. Yet, how many farmers do this! In many, all too many, parts of the country it is the common practice to so do. Cattle are kept on "rough feed" alone during the entire winter. Yearling, and two-years old heifers and steers get no grain whatever. Very frequently spring calves are deprived of all grain. They, and all the other cattle, are expected to subsist on what they can find in the corn-stalk fields, around the straw stack, or perchance on an occasional bunch of hay of inferior quality. They do subsist, but they come to pasture in the spring poor and "run down." There has been a very expensive loss of flesh. The same treatment is given stock hogs and sheep. They are wintered on the least amount of food that will keep them alive. The sheep are given fodder that has stood in the shock since cut in the autumn, and are expected to live on that alone. The hogs are given a scant supply of corn, and that only. The cattle, and more often the sheep, are com-

pelled to lick snow. The supply of water is scant, not of the best quality, and obtained only by risk of life on the icy brink of some pond or creek. Shelter is poor and insufficient, or altogether lacking. The stock loose much by exposure, unprotected save by a rail fence or friendly bank, to the stormy winds and snows. This is the way not to do it.

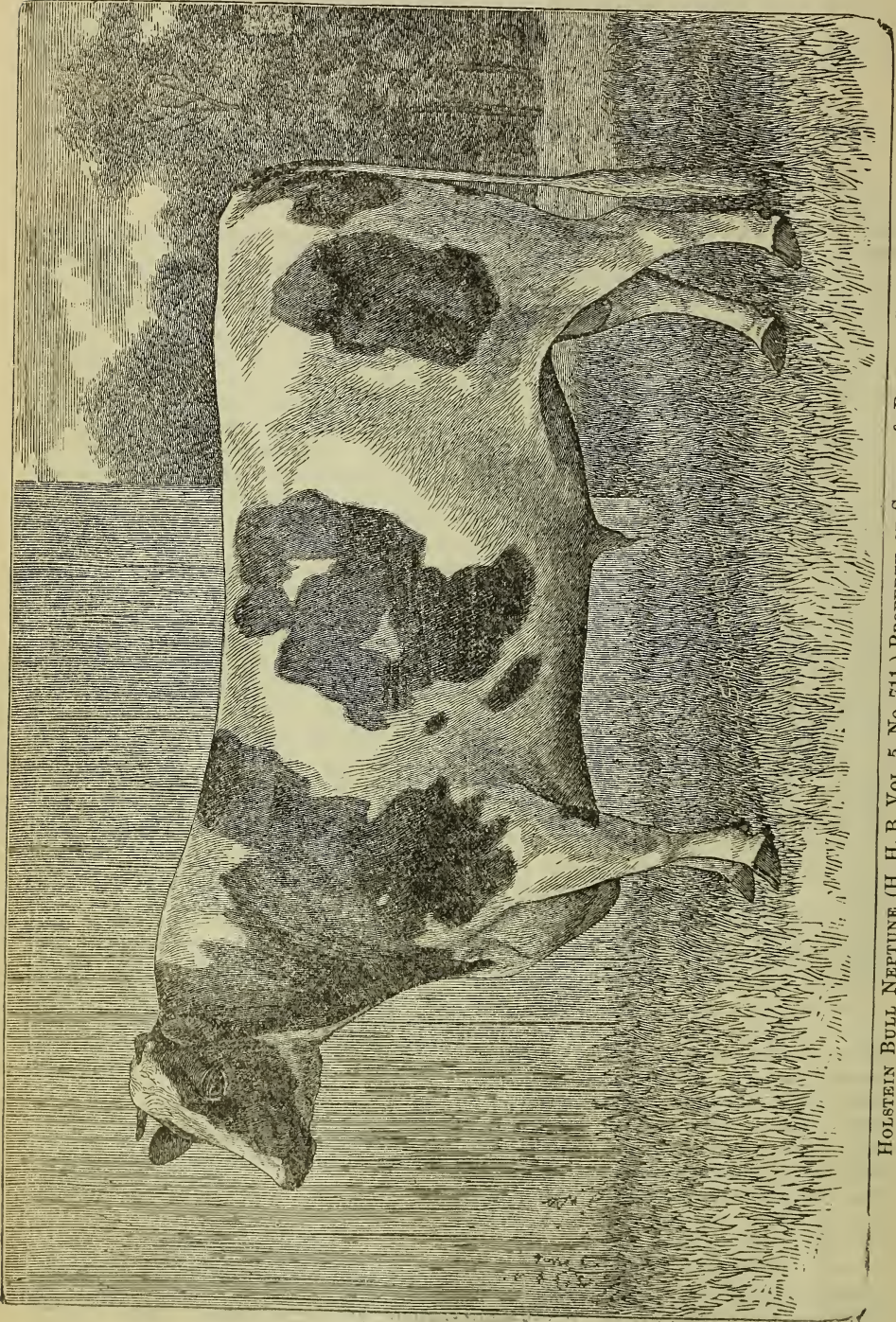
HOW TO DO IT.

It is not enough that the cattle hold their own. They must gain in flesh. The increase is the only profit of feeding. If the farm stock do not gain in fat and muscle the farmer has nothing to show for the food he has given them. To increase as fast as possible the size of the body should, then, be the true object of feeding in winter as well as in summer. To do this, shelter all the stock. The bodily heat is maintained, as it is in great part created, by the consumption of digested food. If this heat is allowed to escape, it will require more food to furnish the requisite supply. More than this, exposure is antagonistic to complete digestion by retarding all the vital functions. Exposed animals do not digest their food properly, and that not digested is lost. Then see that all stock has a plentiful supply of water. Water is a great promoter of health and a great aider of digestion. Lastly, give plenty of wholesome food, and a variety of it. It will pay to feed grain to all cattle. In fact it will not pay to do otherwise. Give the young calves a mixture of oats and bran, or cracked corn. Feed the older stock corn, oil meal, or whatever you find most convenient and profitable. Do not neglect to grain the sheep and hogs as well as the cattle. And as much as lies in your power supply the lack of pasture with green food. Pumpkins and turnips are valuable for this purpose, and can be easily and cheaply grown on the farm. Feed regularly, that the calls of appetite may be supplied when most vigorous. This is the way to do it. Try it, and I am certain that you will find it to be so, and that you will be richer than if you fed as I have said you should not.

JOHN. M. STAHL.

Decline of Man.

Nervous Weakness, Dyspepsia, Impotence, Sexual Debility, cured by "Well's" Health Renewer. \$1.



HOLSTEIN BULL NEPTUNE (H. H. B. Vol. 5, No. 711.) PROPERTY OF SMITHS & POWELL, SYRACUSE, N. Y.

Holstein Bull Neptune.

The illustration in our columns this month is a fine picture of the celebrated Holstein bull Neptune (711), now at the head of Messrs. Smith's & Powell's herd of Holsteins. Neptune is the only living son of Aaggie (901) who made a record when six years old, while carrying twins and just after being imported, of 18,000 lb. 15 oz. in one year. Neptune is brother to Aaggie 2d, which gave as a two-year-old, 17,746 lb. 2 oz. in a year, and has a butter record of 13 lb. 6 oz. in a week.

A late number of the "Spirit of the Farm," Nashville, Tenn., says of this superior herd:—

"Holsteins to be from the Lakeside herd of Smiths & Powell, is a guarantee of quality and good breeding, as the gentlemen give their personal attention to breeding and importing, and select all cattle in person in Holland, trusting to no commission house or agent."

The Holstein boom is progressing finely as shown by recent sales.

When Mercedes 3d sold at Chicago for \$4,200 it was declared to be the highest price ever paid for a Holstein. At Mr. Crasper's sale last week at Cresco, \$4,200 was obtained for one animal, and \$4,700 for another, and \$5,000 for a third. The last two prices were paid for bulls, the top price for a son of Mercedes. The summary of the sale shows 40 cows sold for \$27,265, average \$684.12; 13 bull sold for \$13,205, average \$1,015.77; grand total, \$40,570; general average, \$765.47.

For the Maryland Farmer.

The Horse's Feet.

Did it ever strike the average horse owner that the feet are one of the most important points of the horse, and that they must have the best of attention to enable the animal to do full service and to do it with as little fatigue or discomfort as possible. The farmer and he who owns a roadster cleans the bony legs of his animal well, with curry-comb and brush, yet it is seldom that the feet are given any attention at all, until the animal becomes so lame or sore in the feet that they cannot be longer

neglected. Horses which are kept on the farm continually, on the soft ground, and generally unshod, do not often suffer from foot troubles, unless superinduced by filthy stables. In such cases it is "thrush" or "scratches," which are the apparent diseases. The remedy consists principally in removing the cause and in cleaning out the feet daily, with castile soap and water, drying the affected parts well, and applying sulphur and lard for the scratches, or diluted carbolic acid (2 or three times) for thrush, and keeping the animal on a clean, hard earth floor. When the feet become harsh, brittle and dry, soaking the feet in salty water, and rubbing them vigorously 'till dry as soon as taken from the tub, will soon remedy the trouble, if care is taken in other directions. Never use cold water, or rather do not soak the feet while the animal is warm or overheated. E. JR.

American Cattle Growers.

The great cattle growers in the world are in the United States. The Northwest Texas Cattle Raiser's Association has recently been in session at Fort Worth. The organization has a membership of 223, who each own from 1,000 to 60,000 cattle, and represent a grand total of 1,400,000 cattle. There are several members who can boast of the ownership of from 40,000 to 60,000 head, and fourteen who lay claim to over 20,000. A striking instance of the profitable nature of the ranching business is furnished by the brothers Harrold, who went from Bloomington, Ill., in the Fall of 1875. The aggregate of their worldly possessions amounted to \$48,000. This sum they invested in 4,500 cattle. Now they are the owners of 60,000 head, and are worth at least \$1,500,000. The largest ranch in the State is that of Mr. Charles Goodnight at the head of Red River. He began buying land only four years ago, and now he controls 700,000 acres. To inclose his landed possessions 250 miles of fencing are required. He has the finest, though not the largest, herd of cattle in Texas. His recent sale of yearlings fetched \$20. per head, the average price being \$15. The Matador Cattle company's ranch is another immense property, which was recently sold to a company of Scotch capitalists for \$1,250,000.—*Spirit of the Farm, Nashville.*

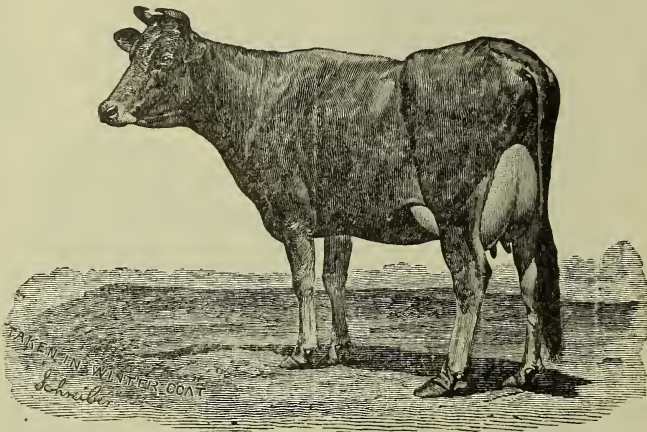
WE are indebted to the Live Stock Publishing Company of the *Live Stock Monthly*, of Portland, Me., for the following cut and notice of

WONDERFUL MARY ANN.

This cow which has created such a furor in Jersey circles, completed her four months test with the enormous yield of 417 lbs. 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ oz., surely a most wonderful record for a four year old. The last 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ days of her seventeenth week yielded 14 lbs. 2 oz., *over four pounds per day*. This wonderful record produced quite a boom in Stoke Pogis blood, and at recent sale of a few

The Horseman.

GOOD HORSES ALWAYS IN DEMAND. —A contemporary well remarks that good horses are always salable at remunerative prices. The demand for such during the past few years has been constantly increasing, and bids fair to be active for some time to come. All the really good horses are salable at high prices, and it is safe to say that twice as many as are available would find a ready market. There are plenty of 'scrub' horses for sale with little or no demand for such. The demand for that stock seems to become less and less every year, and doubtless, were the supply of good horses ample, the demand for scrubs would



The Celebrated "May Anne of St. Lamberts," Owned by Mr. Fuller of Canada.

animals from the herd of Mr. Fuller the following long prices were reached, viz: Jennie Pogis, 17 mos., \$3,000; Daisy Pogis, 16 mos., \$2,400; Violet Pogis, 17 mos., \$2,100.

These prices surely ought to be very gratifying to Mr. Fuller, and the purchaser Mr. Frederick Loeser of Somerville, N. J., has secured three fine heifers.

It is difficult to foretell where these long prices will stop, as every important sale is sure to add to the fabulous prices already recorded.

Get it, Sure!

Wells' "Rough on rats" Almanac, at druggists, or mailed for 2c. stamp.

F. S. WELLS, Jersey city.

cease to exist. The country is full of horse buyers, but they all want good horses. The danger is that the country will become so completely drained of good horses, that there will be a scarcity of good stock to breed from. Breeders should guard against this danger. A good mare for breeding is worth just as much for that purpose as for any other use. If a mare will sell for \$500, she is none too valuable to breed from. Such an animal may raise colts which will sell for \$500 each, and it costs no more to raise a \$500 colt than a \$200 one, while the profits are far greater. The greater the demand for good horses, and the higher the prices, the more earnest should breeders be to secure the best stock to breed from. The present demand for horses instead of draining the country of good breeding stock should fill it up with the best brood mares,

Ayrshire Cows.

The Ayrshire cow, more than any other breed of dairy cattle, is an inheritance from the past. This cow has always been a choice dairy animal. It was made for this purpose. The Jersey has been made with in the recollection of the majority of living persons. There is not one man living who remembers the Ayrshire as much different from what she is now—a prolific milker; a hardy, thrifty beast; an excellent feeder; but perhaps, smoother, finer boned, and handsomer than she was forty or fifty years ago. She is a business cow. Every part of her is worth full price. For beef she cannot be excelled, except for size by a Short-horn, and 1,000 pounds of Ayrshire beef can be made more cheaply and easily than 1,000 of Short-horn. Ayrshire steers make the best oxen, equally as good as the Devons in every way and quite as active. The whole race is gentle and free from vice. It is long lived, and will keep up its yield of milk to past 20 years if the cow is well cared for. A twenty-year-old cow has produced 19 calves, and with her last calf has yielded 30 quarts of milk a day. The Ayrshire, too, crosses well with every other good race. With the Jersey the produce is the best of all family cows, the cross enhancing the richness of milk, when it is not naturally so rich as that of the Jersey. But there is a larger proportion of Ayrshire cows that are above the average as producers of butter, than there is of Jerseys; although some Jerseys certainly surpass all others in their butter product. The cost, too, is in favor of the Ayrshires. A good herd of Ayrshires can be procured for less money than many a Jersey that would be beaten as a butter producer by several of them; because they are not fashionable and the pets of wealthy amateur breeders. —*The Dairy.*

HOW TO HAVE HEAVY COLTS.—A writer in the Tribune is responsible for the averment that, Mr. Robert Bonner has a yearling colt weighing 1,062 pounds, fine in all its points, and promising to be a fast trotter; a result obtained, the owner thinks, from feeding the mother before the colt was weaned, six quarts of oats every night. Since the colt learnt to eat, he also has been fed abundantly with oats, and in addition, both dam and colt have had good pasture-

age in summer and hay in winter. At six months the colt had learned to sustain himself on grain, grass and hay, so that when weaned there was no check in his growth.

For the Maryland Farmer.

The Horse's Age in Rhyme.

A horse's age how can you tell?

Why, I can tell it very well!

For if in his mouth you take a look,

'Tis written there as in a book.

When he's a foal but six months old,

He has grinders, six in each jaw,

Six teeth in front, and these you see:

In each of them a cavity.

At one year old they then fill up,

With grinders for his milk to sup;

At two, the front teeth are just the same,

As when eight years he's on the plain.

At two and a half, the two centre front ones go,

To make room, for others plainly show,

For after that, and very soon,

The permanent ones follow in their bloom.

At three and a half, the next two go,

And this takes place both high and low;

At four and a half, his front teeth boast,

For all his life to rule the coast.

His corner ones are now replaced,

And for all his life he will be graced

With tusks, which now appear,

No more a colt, 'tis very clear.

Now then comes the time,

When Mr. Pacer's in his prime,

With grinders six upon each side

To last his life, will be their pride.

At five years old the tusk so bold,

Stands all alone more need be told.

The black mark in his lower teeth

There's none so blind, cannot see thro'.

The corner ones are rather thinner!

But what of that, they nip his dinner,

At six the mark is gone,

That is, in the two front teeth alone.

At seven the next two go,

The tusks get blunt, so Oh! so Oh!!

At eight the corner ones

Are just as their companions.

Now, they say the horse is aged,

And like a "bird that's long been caged,

He's to his labours reconciled,

And may be managed by a child.

Will my readers think me not bold,

If I tell them when he's ten years old?

When in the upper teeth the cavity,

You must observe, the *angularity*.—A. S. S.

Mother Swan's Worm Syrup.

Infalible, tasteless, harmless, cathartic; for feverishness, restlessness, worms, constipation. 25.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Packing Pork.

It may not be a new idea to pack pork as I am about to suggest but, it is certainly not very commonly practiced hereabouts, and yet seems to have much in its favor. Not unfrequently farmers lose all their pork by carelessness in packing it or in not keeping it covered with brine properly, or in putting it in casks that are not sweet. This is, of course, the first essential and must be observed.

Instead of packing in large casks or barrels, the suggestion is to use lard firkins or tubs that will hold about 40 or 50 pounds, and which can be obtained at almost any grocery store for ten cents. First cover the bottom with a layer of salt, then put in a layer of pork cut in strips about 5 inches wide and a foot or more in length, placing it on the edge not flatwise. After this is done put on another layer of salt, then another of pork. Only two layers can be put in a common sized tub.

The advantages of the system are that the tubs can be more easily handled and moved about the cellar when required; the necessity of lifting heavy stones or other weights out of the barrel when taking out a piece of the pork, is avoided, and in case any taint appears in one tub it will not infect the whole mass as when in a cask.

J. W. D.

Mutton.

The mutton of well-fed sheep of every breed, from the Downs and Shires down to the little woolled Saxony, is palatable and beautiful. None of the objections urged against the use of pork can be brought against that of mutton. It has never been known to impart scrofula, trichinae, or tape worms to its consumers. The sheep does not thrive in the mire, nor does it consume garbage or vermin, or decaying meats, or vegetables. It does not wallow in the trough it feeds from, but is a dainty and careful feeder, and as cleanly as need be in its habits. Mutton is more easily and cheaply produced than beef, is just as nutritious, and may be served in a great variety of forms. As a steady food it is far superior to poultry and costs no more. We mean good, fat, juicy mutton, not that from the half-starved, scabby, or foot discarded specimens, that have out-lived their breed-

ing age, and been shorn of fleeces enough to furnish shoddy blankets for a tribe of Indians. People in cities seldom know how really good mutton tastes and the remark may also apply to most families on the farm. The latter too often fail to try it. We know of many well-to-do farmers, men who have well stocked farms, who do not slaughter a sheep during a twelve-month, yet, who kill a pig every month in the summer season, and in the fall "put down" enough pork to last every other month during the year. This is a nation of meat-eaters, but it confines itself too exclusively to pork and beef. It is better to sandwich in a little more mutton. A few sheep for family consumption, even when they are not for sale or for wool, will be found a most excellent investment on all farms.—I. S. COFFIN, in *Colman's Rural World*.

STREET RAILWAY HORSES.—The 415 street railways in this country and Canada, run 18,000 cars, and more than 100,000 horses, are in daily use. Calculating that the average life of a horse in the street railway service is four years, it makes the consumption of horses 25,000 per year. To feed this vast number of horses requires annually, 250,000 tons of hay, and 11,000,000 bushels of grain.

ENGLAND EXPORTS HORSES.—England exported 6,070 horses in the first eleven months of 1882 against 5,726 in 1881, and 4,845 in 1880—and all this is in the face of the fact that, that country is a constant purchaser of horses for general purpose use. The exports of 1882 were valued at \$1,862,455.20—or about \$306.85 each. France is the heaviest customer, taking 1,942 head.

LEADING HORSE COUNTRIES.—Russia leads the world in the number of horses, possessing a total of 16,414,000 head. The United States comes second, with about 16,314,000 head, and the present fine outlook in horse-breeding indicates that we will eventually stand at the head. In the matter of quality, England should perhaps be accorded the leading position.

"Rough on Corns."

Ask for Well's "Rough on Corns." 15c. Quick complete, permanent cure. Corns, warts, bunions.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Sorghum Seed.

With the importance that Sorghum is at present occupying in the economy of the farm, as a producer of both syrup and sugar, it must not be forgotten that there is an additional value that comes from the leaves and more especially from the seed. The leaves are eaten by animals, but are much more harsh than are those of corn, and for that reason are not as much relished by them. But unlike the corn stalk, the grain comes from the tasseled top, and is produced in considerable quantity. This very much resembles broom corn seed and is found to be valuable as a food product for all classes of animals or even for man himself. By different individuals it is differently estimated in feeding value some placing it on an equality with common corn; others do not elevate it to that position but prefer it to buckwheat or oats, and consider it an excellent article to mix with corn for grinding for feed for horses, cattle or swine. It is fed whole to poultry and makes a healthy change of food. But it occupies a still more important position in the economy of the household.

Most farmers know the importance attached to buckwheat flour as an article for the manufacture of griddles, which when well drenched in syrup are considered unsurpassed as a peculiarly palatable diet, and notwithstanding it has been supposed that there was no substitute for that kind of flour, it has been found that the bolted flour made from Sorghum seed will fill the bill. It is sweet, palatable and appears to be nutritious, and may be more healthful than the buckwheat which is even poisonous to the constitution of some. Thus the grower of Sorghum can now accomplish a double end in the production of a palatable flour for his griddles, and at the same time the syrup with which to dress them in the eating. If the old saying that "a penny saved is as good as two pence earned," the growing of Sorghum saves the purchase of flour for griddles and also the syrup to put upon them and so a double saving is accomplished. It may look like a small matter to grow Sorghum for the purposes specified, but it must be remembered that small things must not be despised:

WILLIAM H. YEOMANS.

Columbia, Conn.

Winter Care of Stock in Pennsylvania.

At a late monthly meeting of the Berks County Agricultural Society, there was an interesting discussion of the question, "How can farmers of Berk's county best winter their stock?" After the expression of many views, the Secretary, Cyrus T. Fox, Esq., said "that the gentlemen present had given much valuable information in regard to feeding, and he approved of the remarks that had been made as to warm stables, ventilation, pure water, wholesome food and cleanliness. The barn-yard ought to be sheltered so that on sunny days in the winter, cattle may be given an airing, and thus enjoy the benefit of pure air and sunshine, the importance of which should not be overlooked. The water at the barn should be arranged in such a manner that the waste will not flow over the barn-yard to freeze, and endanger the safety of the animals. Many a fine animal has had to be killed through the breaking of a leg in an icy barn-yard. There also should be a diversity of food, and in addition to the articles of subsistence already alluded to, the value of roots, such as carrots, mangel-wurzels, sugar beets, turnips, parsnips and potatoes should not be forgotten. In conclusion, he made an appeal in behalf of kind and humane treatment of the dumb animals entrusted to man's keeping, and gave some fitting illustrations, of what can be accomplished by kindness. The man who has feeling in his soul will properly care for his cattle, and will look after their wants in such a manner, that there will be no trouble of keeping them in proper condition during the winter."

Publications Received.

HOW TO BECOME A GOOD MECHANIC.—By an old apprentice. Is an admirable book, published by the Industrial Publication Co., of New York city, and should be read and studied by every one who desires to become a self-taught mechanic. Price only 15 cents.

BEE KEEPING for profit, by Mrs. Lizzie E. Cotton, West Gorham, Maine, Illustrated, price, \$1.00. This neat little work is very practical and well written. Every one having one or more bee-hives should be in possession of this useful book,

MARYLAND FARMER

A STANDARD MAGAZINE,

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Live Stock and Rural Economy.

EZRA WHIMAN, Editor.

COL. W. W. W. BOWIE, Associate Editor,

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Advertisements to secure insertion in the ensuing month should be sent in by the 20th of the month.

Our friends can do us a good turn, by mentioning the MARYLAND FARMER to their neighbors, and suggesting to them to subscribe for it.

Subscribe at once to the Maryland Farmer and get the cream of agricultural knowledge.

To Our Patrons.

For twenty years we have published continuously each month, the MARYLAND FARMER, and it is very gratifying to be able to say that each year it has increased in circulation, and we trust in general usefulness, until it to-day is looked upon as one of the leading Agricultural Journals of the country. What makes it the more gratifying is that this success has been attained by its individual merit, entirely independent of agents to scour the country to obtain subscriptions and advertisements. What such efforts cost others, we prefer to put into the intrinsic worth of our Journal, and thus present it to the public notice on its superior merits alone.

As we enter upon our 21st year with this issue, we are sure our old subscribers will see the justice and propriety of renewing their subscriptions for 1884, and in doing so, settle all arrearages, if any are due to us.

We do hope, as we have no travelling agents, that every old subscriber and every friend of the MARYLAND FARMER will use his or her influence to obtain for next year as many additional subscribers as possible. To prove our desire to extend agricultural knowledge, at the least possible cost, we will furnish our Monthly Journal next year at the low price of \$1.00 per year, and give to each subscriber who pays before January, 1884, a nice premium of one of either of the following books:

Kendals Treatise on the Horse.

Scribner's Lumber Book.

Scribner's Grain Tables.
Horses, Their Feed and Their Feet. (new).

And to such as will add 50 cents extra to the amount due, we will send a dollar book

"Palliser's Model Homes."

Such premiums will reduce the price of the "MARYLAND FARMER" to almost nothing.

For our lady subscribers we have, if desired, that admirable treatise:—

*"Every Woman Her Own
Flower Gardener."*

Important to Subscribers.

We return thanks to such of our Subscribers who have promptly paid their bills due us to January, 1885. Those who have not done so will please read the two lines at the bottom of bill inclosed in the December Number, which will be of some advantage to them. The "Maryland Farmer" will endeavor earnestly during the year 1884, its 21st volume, to make each Number, worth the subscription for the whole year.

If our subscribers will only do their part we pledge ourselves to do ours.

Maryland State Fair of 1883.

After we had expressed our views in regard to this Exhibition, and we had gone to press, last month we received a communication from an esteemed correspondent, and hence it could not appear; but we give in this issue so much as we, in our hurry last month, neglected to state, and which will be of interest to our readers. After complimenting the Association for its splendid exhibit of live stock, the writer goes on to say—

"We have long contended that for the improved breeds of live stock, Maryland can neither be surpassed in quantity nor quality of her stock, area considered. At the late fair, visitors had the best of opportunities of examination and comparison, and our old foggy farmers who think a cow is a cow, and a hog a hog, might by a very pleasant series of object lessons, have learned the advantages of the improved breed. Here he could have compared the beef producing breeds, the Shorthorn, the Angus or the Hereford, for Maryland can boast of the best representatives of each ;

here also was the noted Patterson herd of Devons, the best of their kind in America; the Dutch Fresian and the Dutch Belted, represented by superior herds of their several varieties; then, there were the beautiful orange skinned docile Guernsey, as fine specimens as have ever been imported, but as might have been anticipated from the number of fine herds near Baltimore City, the chief competition was among the Jerseys—and such a display! In sheep could be seen choice lots of Southdowns, Cotswolds, Merinoes, Hampshiredowns, &c., and in hogs there was the fine lot of Mr. Fulford of Harford County, which not only carries off the prizes at a Maryland Fair, but even at the great Fairs of the west, where hog raising is so much more of a business. Considering what there was to be seen, somebody was to blame for the very slim attendance each day; it cannot have been in the management, for the attractions were there; but it must have been the apathy and indifference of our farming classes, who are too often content to take things as they were handed down from their fathers, and try the same things this year that they did last even though they may have not made the interest of the mortgage. In all branches of industry except farming, competition seems to beget shrewdness and careful application of the mind to the subject in hand; to seize on and apply each improvement that promises to render production cheaper and more profitable. Why farmers are so slow and old foggyish, "No fellow can find out." However, we started out to speak of our fine cattle show, and particularly of the display of the beautiful and useful Jersey. Maryland, or rather Baltimore County, can certainly feel proud of her Jerseys. Having not only the highest priced, but what *may* be quite a different thing, the best Jersey cows in America, including such cows as Khedive's, Primrose, cost \$5,150 Saragossa and Princess, cost each \$4,800; Oxford Kate, cost \$3,550; &c., and the greatest of all, the grand cow Value 2d, who, under probably the severest trial extant, made more butter than any cow in the United States; to wit: 25 pounds 3 ounces in 7 days, and 105 pounds 2 ounces in 31 days unsalted. Prizes were awarded as follows:

HOME BRED ANIMALS.

3yr. old bull, 1st Enoch owned by Woolston.
2yr. " " 2d Lord Rex owned by A. Banks.

2yr. old bull, 1st Normandy 2d owned by F. Von Kopff.

2 yr. old bull, 2d Sir Rex owned by J. E. Phillips.

1yr. old bull, 1st— owned by S. M. Shoemaker.

1yr. old bull, 2d Gold Lake owned by Jno. Gill.

Bull calves, 1st— owned by J. W. Garrett.

Bull calves, 2d— owned by S. M. Shoemaker.

3yr. old cow, 1st Value 2d owned by Watts and Seth.

3yr. old cow, 2d Nelly Bly owned by A. Banks.

2yr. old cow, 1st Lillys Pansy owned by J. E. Phillips.

2yr. old cow, 2d Lady Rex Pansy owned by F. Van Kopff.

1yr. old cow, 1st Chatsworth Pansy owned by A. Banks.

1 yr. old cow, 2d Arawana Chevre Feuille owned by Watts & Seth.

Heifer calves, 1st— owned by S. M. Shoemaker.

Heifer calves 2d— owned by A. Banks.

IMPORTED ANIMALS.

3 yr. old bull, Forget-me-not owned by S. M. Shoemaker.

2 yr. old bull, Count Oxford owned by J. E. Phillips.

Bull Calves 1st— owned by W. H. West.

Bull Calves 2d— owned by W. H. West.

3 yr. old cow, 1st Oxford Kate owned by S. M. Shoemaker.

3 yr. old cow, 2d Saragossa owned by S. M. Shoemaker.

3 yr. old cow, H. C. Reita owned by John Gill.

3 yr. old cow, H. C. Empress owned by Watts & Seth.

2 yr. old cow, 1st— owned by W. H. West.

2 yr. old cow, 2d Syrens Glory owned by Watts & Seth.

1 yr. old cow, 1st— owned by J. E. Phillips.

1 yr. old cow, 2d— owned by A. Banks.

Heifer calves, 1st— owned by J. E. Phillips.

Heifer calves 2d Gay Lady owned by A. Banks.

1st herd prize, S. M. Shoemaker.

2d herd prize, John Gill.

As will be seen imported animals competed in separate classes until they came to the real "tug of war," the fight for sweepstakes—a prize of \$25 having been offered for the best bull of any age, which was awarded Mr. to Woolston's "Enoch," a surprise, not so much that the award was questioned, as because "Enoch" was a "dark horse" and hitherto unknown, but he is a beautiful animal.

The manufacturers of the Seal of North Carolina Smoking Tobacco had offered a special prize—a gold medal—for the best female Jersey of any age. This brought out the several prize winners in the different classes, imported and domestic, and Value 2d and Oxford Kate, each a winner in their class the day before, met for the first time and Value 2d was declared the winner.

The Maryland Breeders Association's

gold medal for best pen of four calves, get of one sire, Jersey or Guernsey, brought out a large lot of youngsters. Mr. J. E. Phillips, S. M. Shoemaker and F. Von-Kapff, each showing two pens. Messrs. Clarke & Jones, Watts & Seth, W. H. West, John Gill, John W. Garrett and Andrew Banks, showing pens; with one pen of Guernseys shown by Mr. Watts. After a long struggle the judges finally decided on two pens, each exhibited by Mr. Phillips, and had to call in an umpire. Well done Mr. Phillips.

The Judges were Messrs. O. Pierce of Maine, W. S. Taylor, N. J., S. C. Kent, E. Worth, of Pa., and T. J. Hand of N. Y. A more competent or satisfactory board could not have been attained.

We hope such a display will be repeated but at a more favorable season.

Aberdeen Angus Polled Cattle.

As this breed are attracting much public notice in this country, I rode over, on a pleasant day last month, to the farm of Mr. W. H. Whitridge, of Baltimore Co., situated some ten miles from the city, on the Green Spring Valley R. R., for the purpose of seeing his herd, as he was the first one to import this beef breed from Scotland to this State. We found all the stock looking well, and in addition to those noticed in the Maryland Farmer for September and October, 1882, we found Mr. W. had added by importation and by increase of former importations several fine specimens. His herd at present consists of sixteen head of perfect beauties.

Sir Eustace 2329, stands at the head of the herd, imported with eight cows, some in calf; thus with other importations, it at present numbers sixteen head of pure-bred imported stock.

The two families of greatest repute in Scotland are the Ericas' and Prides', both of which strains are largely represented in this herd.

The two heifers just received from quarantine are notably fine specimens of these families. The Erica heifer, Eone 4675, is

out of Eos 3792, by Sir Maurice 3191, one of the most famous stud bulls of the day. The other heifer is Katinka 4669, out of the celebrated Pride cow Kindness 1412, by the Erica bull Young Viscount 736, who when purchased by Sir George Grant was considered the finest bull of the breed ever seen, having won every prize he could compete for. Katinka dropped on the 6th inst., a bull calf to the celebrated Jilt bull *Justice* 1416, for whom Sir George Grant has refused an offer of 5,000 dollars. This little young calf having in his veins the blood of Erica, Pride and Jilt, if there be anything in blood and breeding, must mature into a bull of more than ordinary merit. In reference to the characteristics of the breed, Macdonald and Sinclair describe them as being "thick, low set, round, very compact, fine in the bone, with soft hair, mellow skin, rich cover of flesh, fine heads, hardy constitution and great aptitude to fatten, their beef being of the finest quality, and beautifully mixed. At a casual glance they seem decidedly smaller than average Shorthorns, but on closer examinations or on the scales the difference is generally found to be much less than had at first sight been supposed, and often disappears altogether. As a rule, Polled animals are lower set or thicker and more compact than average Shorthorns—the latter being more "pointy" and longer in the legs." Being hornless is also an important characteristic of the Angus Polls, which recommends them strongly to shippers and handlers of beef cattle. When bulls of this breed are used upon horned cows it is claimed that 90 per cent. of the calves will be hornless. To verify this Mr. W. has served a few grade cows with his bull Sir Eustace, and within the past few weeks has been dropped the first grade calf, a very perfect bull calf black, with no indication whatever of horns. In fact it would be almost impossible to tell it from a pure bred. The breeding of the dam of this calf is unknown.

Color, she is solid red with white udder. To help the reader to appreciate the value of the leading strains, would say, that at the last public auction, in which either an Erica and Pride of any merit, have been disposed of, the prices paid for each, have been as high as \$2,500. Between 2,000 and 2,500 dollars was recently obtained by Sir George Grant for a yearling Pride heifer, a full sister of the cow "Katinka." There have been no public sales of individuals of either of these families very recently, but it is supposed that an Erica would now command considerably more than the above figure.

Of the cheap, convenient and well arranged Poultry House of Mr. W. we have heretofore spoken in full commendation, and now only remark that it has given Mr. Whitridge perfect satisfaction and pleasure. His experience has satisfied him that it is best to keep in future only Plymouth Rock chickens, Bronze turkeys, and a special variety of ducks; of all these several sorts of poultry he has a large quantity and all are pure-bred. Among other conveniences on this well managed farm, I noticed a wind-mill, which pumped and forced the water from the well, to the dwelling, and to all the out buildings. This is a great saving of labor. The surroundings and neighborhood of this farm are pleasant, and altogether it is one of the most delightful summer residences in that romantic and fertile section of the county. W.

THE CLOTHING HOUSE OF NOAH WALKER & CO.—We cannot refrain from saying to farmers, merchants and all others visiting this city to purchase clothing, should, before purchasing elsewhere, call at this old and well-established house, where we assure them they can obtain goods as represented to be, and buyers will get as much in value for their money as from any Clothing house in this city,

FERTILIZERS.

So much discussion has lately been had about the various sorts of mixed and manipulated fertilizers and their respective merits, that many farmers are at a loss to settle upon any one manufacture, and as this is the season when our Southern friends are buying their supplies for the year, we think it not out of the way to advise them to correspond or visit the manufacturers of fertilizers in this city before buying elsewhere. It must be remembered that Baltimore was the first city in which the fertilizing trade was commenced. Here is to be found the oldest and most experienced manufacturers of such articles, and here are made and sold more of such material than in any city of this or any other country. Every factory has its own brand, yet any one of them would furnish a fertilizer compounded to suit the wishes of the purchaser. If a man wanted one free of nitrogen, or if he desired a highly ammoniated article, he can be accommodated. The materials are here to be had, crude or ground, mixed or alone, for home mixing as the buyer may prefer. But above all, the buyer can, by letter or personal interview, have the full benefit of the knowledge and long experience of our several scientific manufacturers, and therefore we urge all buyers of manures for the current year, to see in person, or correspond with our manufacturers and dealers in regard to what they want, stating as near as they can the condition of their soils, localities, and the crops to be planted. In a word, let us urge upon buyers to examine in some satisfactory manner the Baltimore market before investing in other marts their money, which may or may not be otherwise wasted, by purchasing a fertilizer good in itself but worthless often times for the purpose used. A larger, safer and more in every way reliable market for fertilizers is not to be found in this Union. Tell frankly what you want and you will find our fertilizer dealers will respond honestly to your demand.

Friesian Cattle.

Dr. Patterson, of Lochearn, Baltimore county, has sold to Messrs. Hemingway & Wolf, of Jackson, Miss., at good figures, five head of Friesian cattle. This is the third lot the Doctor has shipped this same firm since his importation from Friesland eighteen months ago. Also one to Mr. Trulock of Arkansas. They were all sent by the Western Maryland Railroad, because we are informed that this road charges for live-stock transportation about one-third less than other roads. This is a fact that buyers of Maryland cattle should note, as the high price charged for transportation of stock by the railroads and boats have often deterred purchasers from a distance from purchasing Maryland stock. The Stock Breeders Association of our State should carefully consider this important matter. We refer it to them.

WE will be pardoned for the grateful expression of a little natural pride in returning publicly our thanks to the press generally for their *voluntary* appreciation of the MARYLAND FARMER—which never writes its own puffs and praises—and for the testimony of a host of readers as to its merits, a few of which we give from the many upon renewing their subscriptions:

Col. J. H. S., of St. Mary's county, Md., writes: "I congratulate the Maryland Farmer on entering its 21st year and enclose \$1.00 to insure the great pleasure I take in its monthly visits. Patuxent Planter's Chats with the ladies never fail in point or polish,—the December's descriptive poetry was beautiful, all hail! Welcome merry xmas!"

Hon. J. C. W., of Harford Co., "Sincere wishes for the continued prosperity of the Farmer, and my friend, the Colonel."

Hon. W. H. G., of T., Prince George's county, says: "I send my subscription to your valuable journal with best wishes for its continued success, and a happy Christmas to you and your esteemed associate editor, with the wish of many returns of the same."

From the venerable Mrs. B. C. H., of Baltimore city, through her daughter: "There is much valuable information in the Maryland Farmer." [Coming from such a source, this is, indeed, a cherished compliment.—Eds.]

"Your monthly I appreciate very highly and always pleased to see it. J. L., Va.

J. W. E., of Easton, Md., writes "I have always obtained valuable information from the Maryland Farmer for the past six or seven years."

Hon. J. A. P., Kent county, Md., "with best wishes for your continued prosperity and usefulness."

So we might go on for pages, but give the above only to show how our efforts in in the past have been esteemed, and pledge ourselves to continue in future to deserve such kindly consideration.

Montgomery Farmer's Convention.

The Annual Farmers Convention will be held at the Lyceum, at Sandy Springs, on Tuesday, January 15th, at 10 o'clock. In addition to other matters of interest, the following questions will be discussed:

1st Shall we buy stone lime at 14 cents, or oyster shell lime at 7 cents?

2nd. Is our present system of farming the best?

3rd. On a small farm does it pay to keep woodland for fuel?

4th. Will it pay a farmer to own a manure spreader?

5th. Is it profitable to raise calves for beeves in this county?

6th. Does the Agricultural Press afford farmers as much advantage as we have the right to expect?

7th. As a basis for our fertilizers, is it more profitable to use animal bone, or S. Carolina phosphate, the latter costing half as much as the bone?

8th. Is it expedient for the farmers of Montgomery to establish an Agency in Washington, for the sale of produce?

These Conventions are always well attended and highly interesting and instructive.

The Farmers Congress.

The Third National Annual Meeting of the representative Husbandmen, was held at Louisville, 6th of December, 1883, and was very encouraging. A large number of representatives were from Kentucky and Tennessee, and from Virginia, the Hons. Robert Beverly and T. R. Crane, with representatives from South Carolina, Indiana, Colorado, and Mississippi. We regret there were none from Maryland.

This convention was neither sectional nor partizan. It was intended for the benefit of agriculturists of all the States.

The president Col. Thomas J. Hudson of Mississippi, delivered an opening address, in which he urged a tariff for revenue only, and the organization of the agriculturists of the country for their own, and the general prosperity of all classes of the whole country. The discussions were highly creditable to the speakers, and were of general interest to farmers. Col. Robert Beverly of Va., was elected president for the next year by acclamation. The next place of meeting was fixed upon at Nashville, Tenn., and would have been Baltimore on motion of Mr. Crane of Va., but that Maryland was wholly unrepresented. Alas! for Maryland enterprise!

THE Maryland State Grange met last month in Baltimore, H. O. Devries, Master. A large amount of important business relative to the best interests of the order was considered. The order is represented to be in excellent condition throughout the State. For 1884, the officers elected were as follows:

Master—H. O. Devries, Howard co.

Overseer—John W. Corey, Kent.

Lecturer—Dr. A. E. Sudler, Queen Anne's.

Steward—Thos. S. Iglehart, Anne Arundel.

Asst. Steward—Thos. B. Todd, Baltimore.

Chaplain—F. A. Tschiffety, Montgom'y

Treasurer—H. H. Murray, Anne Arundel.

Secretary—Wm. B. Sands, Baltimore.

Journalistic.

HARPER'S MAGAZINE for January 1884, is a really brilliant Number, with a fine portrait of Whittier as a frontispiece, beside numerous excellent wood cuts and the usual amount of entertaining reading.

DEMOREST'S MONTHLY MAGAZINE, for January '84, is elegantly printed and full of good reading. While it is emphatically a fashion journal for the ladies, it is embellished with engravings, representing historic characters and past events of note. It may well be classed as an Art Journal. Price, \$2.00. Published at 17 East 14th st., New York

THE AMERICAN APICULTURIST, a most excellent journal, started last May, and devoted to Scientific and Practical Bee-Keeping. Price, \$1.00 per year. Address, S. M. Locke, Salem, Mass.

THE Agricultural Review and Journal of the A. A. A., will hereafter be consolidated with the "De Bow's Review," of New Orleans and "Southern Industries" of Tenn. These three famous papers will be a strong-team indeed, and we wish it great success.

This Journal has always held a very high rank, and it is presumed with the added talent and other aid that will be brought to it by the two other journals, it will at the same price, \$3.00 per year, be a highly desirable paper for the farmer, but we cannot see how it can be improved, even by such additions of talent and other adjuncts.

THE AGRICULTURAL EPITOMIST, monthly, published at Watontown, Pa., at 50 cents per year with seed premiums,—is a plain, practical, useful journal, well worth its small cost and can be read by all tillers of the soil with much profit.

Catalogues Received.

The Mountairside Breeding Herd of Cattle of T. A. Havemeyer, Mahwah, N. J., has been elegantly catalogued. The picture of the herd and the portraits of its individual members are enough to make any one fall at once in love with cattle breeding. They are all pure Jerseys, collected by purchase since 1880. They were bought either on the island of Jersey or at public auction in this country.

We have had the pleasure of personally inspecting this well conducted farm and were charmed by the beauty of its location and the business like system which prevailed in all departments, yet its main object seemed to be for the increase of this herd, so as to make Moun-

tainide, the great resort in the future of such as might be in search of high bred Jersey stock.

NEW AMERICAN SEEDLING ROSES, Ellwanger & Barry, Rochester, N. Y. for 1884. These seedlings are really triumphs in Rose culture, and hybridizing, &c., by this renowned firm. The "Marshall P. Wilder" is particularly so, and worthy the name of the great propagator of new plants and flowers, and eminent president of the U. S. Horticultural Society.

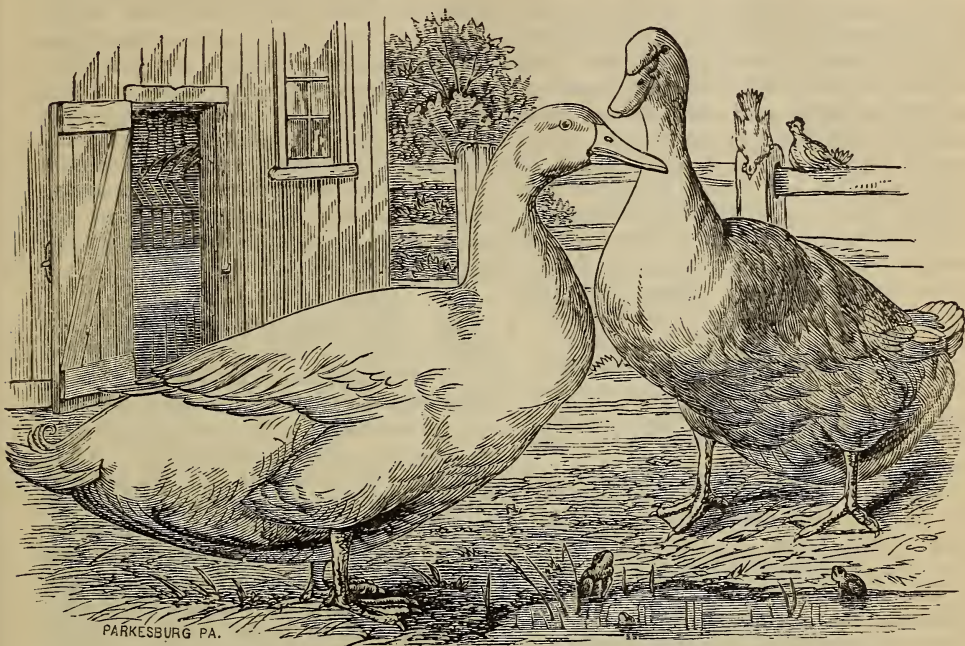
PROGRAMME of the International Agricultural Association to be held by the United Netherlands Agricultural Associations from August 25th to September 6th, 1884, at Amsterdam, Europe.

FROM R. S. Cole, price list of plants, vines, &c., grown and for sale at Cedar Hill Small-Fruit Farm, Harman's Station, Md. We commend this Maryland Nursery to the attention of fruit growers.

FROM Messrs. Harvey, Syracuse, Neb., list of premiums taken by their Turlington Stock Farm, at the Fairs of 1883, for Short Horn, Jersey, Holsteins, West Highland, and Polled Angus cattle.

DESK TOOL.—We are indebted to Messrs. Lord & Thomas, Newspaper Advertising Agents of Chicago, Ill., for this very convenient little implement, which combines an agate measure, inch measure, desk ruler, and paper or check cutter. Every business man should have it on his desk. It is an artistic piece of work made of light sheet metal neatly painted and figured. Free to their advertisers and to others wishing it, price only 10 cents in stamps.

HAMILL'S SILVER-PLATED WARE.—This is a Baltimore manufactory, and should be encouraged by our people, as it is not surpassed by any like industry in this country. No where in the world is produced finer silver-plated ware. Such is the reputation of Charles W. Hamill & Co., that they have a large trade beyond the limits of this State. It would well repay any person wanting articles of this sort to visit this establishment, corner of Calvert and German streets, and examine the large assortment of new designs in table ware, cake baskets and numerous other novelties, which are offered at very reasonable prices.



Imperial PEKIN DUCKS. Bred by Potts Bros., Parkersburgh, Pa.

POULTRY HOUSE.

WE give the above illustration and at same time the following communication, from our esteemed correspondent, E. JR., which in part, is a treatise upon this excellent breed of ducks.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Poultry Management.

THE PEKIN DUCK.

Since the introduction of this breed of ducks, much care has been expended on their breeding, until we now have, no doubt, much finer stock than was the original lot from which all, in this country, has been bred. They are the largest breed of ducks we have, unless we except the Muscovy; but as the Muscovy will never be either very popular or very profitable, on account of it being difficult to keep them within bounds and to breed large flocks from them. The Pekins are sure to be invariably taken in preference, for profitable purposes.

The Pekins not merely grow to a large size, but they are quiet, easily reared and are prolific, under ordinary good management. They are very showy, and by some are occasionally mistaken for the Aylesbury, as they are a solid white, in plumage. They differ from these, however, in leg and bill, coloring as well as in form, being more the shape of a goose.—Any farmers or others who now wish to give them a trial—and they seem to give universal satisfaction,—can do so at a moderate cost, either by purchasing a pair or trio, or by procuring a setting of eggs in the Spring. Most of our prominent poultry fanciers and breeders now breed them, from whom either stock or eggs can be gotten at a fair price. And we would say here that it is generally more satisfactory to buy the birds than the eggs, for duck eggs, and turkey eggs, too, being large, will not carry long distances so well or give as good results when hatched after coming from a distance as will eggs from ordinary poultry chickens and bantams.

WINTER QUARTERS.

In latitudes where the weather during

winter is severe, especial attention must be paid to housing, if plenty of eggs during the continuance of cold weather are desired. A good, warm, comfortable house does much more towards insuring the hens laying well in winter and early spring, than any other one thing we can name. If left to shift for themselves, in sheds, barns or other out of the way places, no matter how well the fowls may be fed, they will not and cannot lay any eggs, as it will take all the food they can consume to keep up the required amount of heat. Remember this fact, ye farmers, and then do not blame the hens, when you, alone may be at fault.

Artificial heat is not absolutely necessary, in fact we do not think it is a good plan to have a fire in the poultry house in winter, for the house should be made as tight and warm as possible, and then extra heat can be introduced in a better form, more naturally and cheaper, by a suitable arrangement of sash, facing the south or south east. This will make a difference of several degrees in the temperature of the inside of the house. Almost invariably when a stove is kept in the poultry house, it is kept too warm. This makes the birds too tender, so tender, in fact, that when they are left out for exercise, they suffer from the cold and occasionally have combs or wattles frozen. This is especially true of the large combed Leghorns.

SAVING THE FEATHERS.

Chicken feathers, when properly saved, make warm and comfortable beds,—not so warm and nice, perhaps, as a goose-feather bed, yet quite an improvement on a straw or husk one, when the thermometer is playfully hovering around zero. It is just as easy to pick the fowls dry as it is to pick them when scalded, when one gets the knack of doing it. Dry picked fowls bring better prices than scald ones, they carry better to market and show up better when exposed for sale, and the saving of feathers is an important item. The fowls should be carefully picked just as soon as they are dead, and before they have had a chance to cool off, when the feathers can be readily pulled out, commencing with the tail and wing feathers, (which are not saved), and then pulling the breast feathers, which are fine and worth saving. As there is quite a layer of fat, generally, on the breast, this part must be picked as soon as possible, as it is liable to be torn if left until

cool. No large, stiff or heavy feathers should be saved, for "feather-bed" purposes at least, and all the soft and juicy pen feathers should be carefully kept out. Matured birds produce much better and finer feathers, and more of them than do young, immature birds. The feathers from young birds are so soft and juicy as to be in danger of spoiling, unless especially treated to destroy the super abundant moisture, and nearly every thorough going farmer's wife knows how to do these things.

LINING POULTRY HOUSES.

One of the cheapest and best linings for poultry houses is undoubtedly the tarred paper or felting, which is now used to a considerable extent by poultry fanciers. It costs but little and is readily applied by any one so as to keep out the cold. Aside from this, the smell of the tar will prove so distasteful to the insect enemies of the poultry, they will seldom care to stay. If all the new poultry houses being built were to be lined with this material before the fowls are put in, there would be but little chance for the lice to find an opportunity to breed there, at least not until the paper became very old and the smell of the tar had almost entirely disappeared. It will, however, take a great while for the tarred paper to lose its virtues.

This tarred paper or felting is also used, for outside work, on poultry house roofs, and if carefully and properly laid on an even surface of boards, the rain cannot get in to injure or disturb the fowls. There are several parties who manufacture this tarred material, from whom it can be readily obtained, though those who wish to use it should always state to the manufacturers exactly how many square feet of surface they wish covered. In buying full rolls of this tarred paper, better prices can be given by the manufacturers, so it would pay for several to club together and get the benefit of any reduction which can thus be obtained. E. JR.

The Coming Baltimore Poultry Show.

After stating the fact that the managers of the Baltimore Poultry Show this year would give no premiums, but *honors* to such birds as were deserving, a sensible

writer in the *Poultry Monthly* for December writes :

"Now, I am glad to see this move, for I think it is a step in the right direction, and I hope in time all the other shows will follow suit, for this cash prize business has been a curse to nine-tenths of them, and if this system of no cash premiums is carried out we will soon have flourishing shows all over the country. The object of a fancier in sending his birds to a show, as I understand it, is to have them examined by competent judges (employed at the expense of the club or society) who are to pronounce them worthy of whatever honor is due them amongst the hundreds of other birds in the exhibition. Now I would like to ask who is benefitted by this knowledge, the judges? Of course not; nor the club; it is the exhibitor. Then why shouldn't *he* and *not* the club pay for it? Let him get first premium in a close competition, how quickly he will raise the price of those birds; he knows well that his success will be heralded all over the country by the poultry and pigeon papers, and that is of more value to him than any of the cash premiums offered (but seldom paid) by the shows; or I will go further, offer this lucky individual five—yes, or ten dollars if he will let it be published that *your* bird took first premium and see how quickly he *won't* take you up. What does he care for a few paltry dollars to the fame he has so long hoped for and dreamed of as an owner of the best birds in this country, and my dear friends, in Baltimore is the place he can find that out, for if he is successful there he need not be afraid to show his birds anywhere. I saw the show there this year (1883) and there was never anything like it before in this country, and I firmly believe it will be as good if not better next year (1884) under the new order of things. I shall exhibit fifty cages of pigeons, and I hope all my brother fanciers will lend a helping hand in the way of entries, for they are hard workers and deserve to be successful. Trusting dear MONTHLY that I shall meet you and many more of my old friends there, I remain yours truly, JACK W."

Poultry and Pigeon Show.

The annual exhibition of the Baltimore Poultry and Pigeon Club will be held at Oratorio Hall, the Natatorium, on Howard street, Baltimore, commencing on Tuesday January 7th, 1884, and ending on Friday, 11th, inclusive. Special interest has been taken in this exhibition and it promises to prove of value and interest to poultry fanciers and raisers. Entries for the exhibition will close on January 2d.

LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

Chats with the Ladies for January.

BY PATUXENT PLANTER.

WINTER.

"Old Winter has shaken his snowy locks
O'er the lap of mother earth,
And bound with his arm the woodland stream
To the hill that gave it birth.

He stripped of their verdure the grand old trees,
And has robed them all in white;
The merry flowers, as they heard his steps,
In the earth have hid from sight.

The breath of his coming the song birds felt,
And to sunnier lands made haste,
While Summer-clad fields grew sere and gray,
And the vales he laid in waste.

The asters and golden-rod passed away
When they saw him coming by;
And dainty bluebells their death knell rang,
As they laid them down to die.

But Winter well knowing they'll wake again
When the joyous Spring draws near,
Has covered them over, soft and warm,
To await her word of cheer.

Then blustering on in his busy haste,
To unsightly things and poor,
He decks each one with a garb of white,
And the world grows white and pure.

For cleanly and fair must the earth be now,
As withdraws the passing year,
For Winter has said to every heart:
Lo! the Christmas time is here.

Yes, Christmas time is here;—so long, joyfully anticipated by *children*, it has come and passed. How all look for it with pleasant emotions, and how glad *old* folks are when it is over! The past grand festival was celebrated by nature in one of her gloomiest moods, yet wearing a brilliant garb. Her robe was white and covered with glittering frozen drops, as if she wore jewels of emerald, bathed in dissolved diamonds, such was the scene, the evergreen forests, and deciduous trees presented. In fact it was a terrible day—the Christmas of 1883.—Cold and disagreeable over-head and dangerously slippery under-foot. The churches in some cities were super-

bly dressed so, that they looked like blooming winter gardens. This caught the women and children by crowds. He, whose birth is now celebrated throughout Christendom, was one who both taught and practiced humility, and preached in open air, on mountain tops and in lowly vallies, not in gorgeous temples, or ministered in the luxurious parlors of the rich, but in lowly cots by the way-side, selecting his immediate assistants from the lowest rank of life. This was God-in-man, setting an example to be followed; teaching chiefly charity and goodwill, peace on earth and universal fraternity, not pandering to riches and ostentatious pride. It might be well for some of his so-called followers of the present day to reflect upon the practical lessons He taught, while on earth, and in celebrating his birth-day, adhere to the great lessons his life on earth were intended to teach. Keep Christmas by the bestowal of charity—making young hearts glad—poor people rejoice—comforting the sick and feeble—pouring balm on the wounded hearts, and in forgetting wrongs, forgiveness of offences, and being happy and making, as far as in each one lies, all others happy and cheerful, forgetting all wrongs, and determining to become more humble and genial in the future, not by extravagant exhibitions of showy foolishness or boastful display, once a year, of a Princely gift to some doubtful charity for the fame that will enure to the giver.

But Christmas has gone, and with its gifts and many blessings, may it return many times to each one of my readers, is the sincere hope of your humble friend.

The New Year has come and may it be a Happy one to All, as poor Tim said. Let it be one in which we may practice economy, not meanness; generosity not extravagance; all the virtues and avoid the vices; domestic peace and pleasure, not the taudry follies of the world; and so live that when the dread summons comes, we may be prepared to wrap our mantle about us and obey it complacently.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Virginia Farming, &c.

DEAR LADIES:—

I did not write - Patuxent Planter "gave us better letters," that was a mistake made in the printing office. I wrote that Patuxent Planter "gave us *Belle Letters*," and I wrote the truth I never read finer articles. Men do not often write so sweetly.—Perhaps Patuxent Planter is a lady—who knows?

This section of Virginia is steadily gaining in

the number of acres cultivated and the method of cultivation, and in improved stock, buildings and farming machinery. The sale of intoxicating liquors are prohibited amongst us—and I think this has been conducive to prosperity. Liquor was at one time sold at every little grocery and way-side inn, and laboring men spent their time and money at the dram shop. On the first start I thought this prohibition was rather an aggressive business—and it was only a beast who could not use intoxicants temperately. Now I see it serves happiness to many families and contributes to the peace and security of the community. I know nothing about drunkards—and hope I never shall. I have kept up the old time custom of giving liquor to harvest hands, until this year, and it was at their own request none was given last harvest.

Wheat now, looks promising. I have near one hundred acres in, and cherish high hopes of the result.

Anticipating the decline in pork I have reduced my herd of swine during the year by selling all the stock hogs I could. I have heard it said sheep require very little attention and very little feed, but I find that considerable attention and feed is requisite to have a beautiful flock of sheep. Indeed, I do not find any neglected animal pays.

The profits of farming accrue slowly, yet after a number of years have past I find I have not only lived well and pleasantly but am several thousand dollars better off than when I commenced, in spite of many mishaps.

Our cook makes quite nice pudding without eggs, she makes a stiff batter with flour, sour milk or cream, with sufficient soda; sets it away to get light; then stirs in fruit and shortening; bakes like cake; and serves with cream sauce. I was astonished at the idea of making pudding without eggs, but it can be done quite creditably.

Dec. 10th, 1883.

LADY FARMER.

For the Maryland Farmer.

A TRUE VISION.

When I my weary eye lids close,
And sleep brings calm and sweet repose,
In visions come to my glad ear,
Such sounds as mortals never hear;

Of music's most melodious strains,
Resounding over hills and plains;
Now high they float, now soft they glide,
And echo 'round on every side.

Could earth's sad ones once hear such lays,
Of soul inspiring heavenly praise,
T' would make their hearts with rapture burn,
And long of angel choirs to learn.

[M. G. H., of Me.

Our Subscribers, Advertisers and Readers are urgently requested to read and ponder over our Prospectus for the next year, which is found as an accompaniment for this number, which closes the twentieth volume of the MARYLAND FARMER.

His own Executor.

A WELL-KNOWN GENTLEMAN'S PHILANTHROPY AND THE COMMOTION
CAUSED BY ONE OF HIS
LETTERS.

(*Rochester Democrat and Chronicle.*)

We published in our local columns yesterday morning a significant letter from a gentleman known personally or by reputation to nearly every person in the land. We have received a number of letters protesting against the use of our columns for such "palpable frauds and misrepresentations;" therefore, to confirm beyond a doubt the authenticity of the letter, and the genuineness of its sentiments, a reporter of this paper was commissioned to ascertain all the possible facts in the matter. Accordingly he visited Clifton Springs, saw the author of the letter, and with the following result:

Dr. Henry Foster, the gentleman in question, is 63 or 64 years of age, and has an extremely cordial manner. He presides as superintendent over the celebrated sanitarium, which accommodates over 500 guests, and is unquestionably the leading health resort of the country. Several years ago this benevolent man wisely determined to be his own executor, and, therefore turned over this magnificent property worth \$300,000, as a free gift to a board of trustees, representing the principal evangelical denominations. Among the trustees are Bishop A. C. Coxe, Protestant Episcopal, Buffalo; Bishop Mathew Simson, Philadelphia, Methodist Episcopal; President M. B. Anderson, of the University of Rochester; Rev. Dr. Clark, Secretary of the A. B. C. F. M., Boston. The benevolent purpose of the institution is the care. 1st.—of evangelical missionaries and their families, whose health has been broken in their work. 2d.—of ministers, of any denomination, in good standing. 3d.—of members of any church, who otherwise would be unable to secure such care and treatment. The current expenses of the institution are met by the receipts from the hundred of distinguished and wealthy people, who every year crowd its utmost capacity. Here come men and women who were once in perfect health, but neglected the first symptoms of disease. The uncertain pains they felt at first were over

looked, until their health became impaired. They little realized the danger before them, nor how alarming, even trifling ailments might prove. They constitute all classes, including ministers and bishops, lawyers, judges, statesmen, millionaires, journalists, college professors and officials from all parts of the land.

Drawing the morning *Democrat and Chronicle* from his pocket, the reporter remarked, "Doctor, that letter of yours has created a good deal of talk, and many of our readers have questioned its authenticity."

"To what do you refer?" remarked the doctor.

"Have you not seen the paper?"

"Yes, but I have not had time to read it yet."

The reporter thereupon showed him the letter, which was as follows:

CLIFTON SPRINGS SANATARIUM CO., }
CLIFTON SPRINGS, N. Y., Oct. 11, 1883. }

DEAR SIR:—I am using Warner's Safe Cure, and I regard it as the best remedy for some forms of kidney disease that we have. I am watching with great care some cases I am now treating with it, and I hope for favorable results.

I wish you might come down yourself, as I would like very much to talk with you about your sterling remedy, and show you over our institution.

Yours truly,

[Signed] HENRY FOSTER, M. D.

"I do not see why anybody should be skeptical concerning that letter," remarked the doctor.

"Isn't it unusual for a physician of your standing and influence to commend a proprietary preparation?"

"I don't know how it may be with others but in this institution, we allow no person to dictate to us what we shall use. Our purpose is, to cure the sick, and for that work we use anything we know to be valuable. Because I know Warner's Safe Cure is a very valuable preparation, I commend it. As its power is manifested under my use, so shall I add to the completeness of my commendation."

"Have you ever analyzed it, doctor?"

"We always analyze before we try any preparation of which we do not know the constituents. But analysis, you know only gives the elements; it does not give the all important proportions. The remarkable

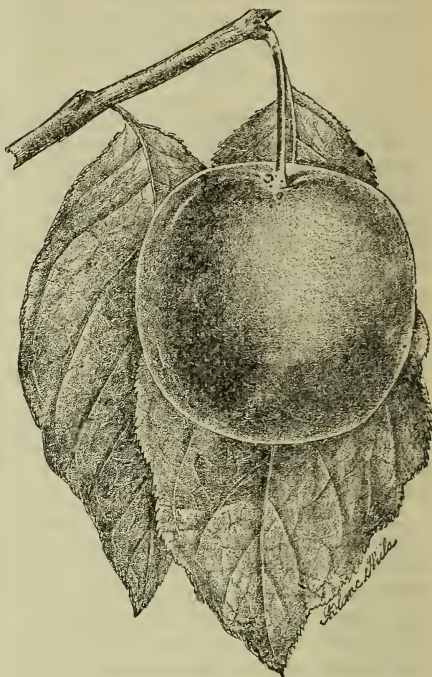
power of Warner's Safe Cure undoubtedly consists in the proportions, according to which its elements are mixed." While there may be a thousand remedies made of elements, unless they are put together in the same proper proportions, they are worth less as kidney and liver preparations.

"I hope some day to meet Mr. Warner, personally, and extend fuller congratulations to him on the excellence of his preparations. I have heard much of him as the founder of the Warner Observatory, and as a man of large benevolence. The reputed high character of the man himself gave assurance to me in the first place, that he would not put a remedy upon the market that was not trustworthy; and it was a source of a good deal of gratification to me, to find out by actual experiment, that the remedy itself, sustained my impressions."

The conclusion reached by Dr. Foster is precisely the same found by Dr. Dio Lewis, Dr. Robert A. Gunn, Ex Surgeon-General Gallagher, and others, and proves beyond a doubt, the great efficacy of the remedy, which has awakened so much attention in the land, and rescued so many men, women and children from disease and death.

THE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY of South Carolina will hold an Industrial Exposition in February, at Charleston, S. C., to begin on the 29th of January and continue daily until 23d of February. The Association promises for 1884 an unusually attractive exhibition. During the continuance of the exhibition, the State grange of P. of H., the State A. and M. Society, and the S. C. Jockey Club will hold meetings, beside the other attractions always to be found in this historic city of Charleston. The northern seekers of pleasure can find no pleasanter route than a trip to Charleston in mid-winter to enjoy the present inducements held out by the South Carolinians, aided by the reduced rates of rail-ways for the excursion to all who desire to embrace this opportunity. It will be like stepping from an ice-house into a summer parlor, radiant with blooming flowers and fanned by gentle summer breezes.

HORTICULTURAL.



The Mariana Plum.

This new fruit is an accidental seedling. Tree, a rapid and uniform grower; straight stem; lower branches nearly horizontal, and becoming more upright towards the top, forming a compact and symmetrical head. It never suckers and is entirely free from insects. Fruit round, a little larger than the Wild Goose; rather thick skin, a deep cardinal red, when fully ripe; stone small, and fruit of fine quality, persistent, and not liable to be blown off by high winds. Ripens two to three weeks before the Wild Goose, and continues in fruit three to four weeks.

This fruit is entirely free from the ravages of the curculio and other insects; bears uniformly, heavy crops in all seasons. Leaves remain green 'till January. A beautiful shade tree.

WE are indebted to Mr. A. Blanc, engraver for florists, nurserymen, &c., Philadelphia, Pa. for the above beautiful engraving of this new and valuable plum, of which we shall have more to say hereafter.

Maryland Agricultural College.

The first lecture in the regular Scientific and Literary course, established at this Institution, was delivered on the 20th ultimo, at 7.30 o'clock by President Smith, upon the importance of agricultural education. It was an able, eloquent and instructive discourse, and elicited much applause.

These lectures while intended primarily for the instruction of the students, are designed also for the benefit of the public, who are cordially invited to attend the course.

This is a move in the right direction and should be hailed by the friends of the College, as an evidence of proper appreciation, upon the part of the President of that institution, of his responsibilities and his determination to meet public expectation. He should be encouraged in his laudable purpose to advance the interest of educational work of the Institution under his charge.

WE have room in our Dairy Department for only the following:

Cream by Machinery.

The De Laval Cream Separator, a centrifugal machine which separates the cream from milk, fresh from the cow, doing away with all systems of setting, and giving ten per cent. more product of a better quality than any other process, is attracting wide attention among the dairymen and creameries of the United States and Canada. The machine is made of the best iron and steel, and constructed in the best manner known, occupies less space than a common barrel, and with one horse-power, will extract the cream from 80 to 90 gallons of milk an hour, or from 3,500 to 4,000 lbs. in a half a day. Each machine will do the work for one hundred cows, and no dairyman having twenty-five cows and power can afford to be without it. It is especially adapted for creameries.

Among the dairymen and creameries, now using the De Laval Cream Separator are Theo. A. Havemeyer, Mountinside Farm, Mahwah, N. J.; J. & J. Darlington, Darling, Pa.; C. W. Gould, and John Newman, Elgin, Ill., and many others.

The best evidence of its value is the fact, that many of those who have bought machines are duplicating their orders.

Address the De Laval Cream Separator Co., Joseph H. Reall, President, 32 Park Row, New York.

New First-Class Sewing Machines at Half Price,

PAYABLE IN SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE
"MARYLAND FARMER."

Having received a fine lot of these Machines, and not being in the Sewing Machine business, we concluded to let our Subscribers have them on above terms. The retail list price is \$50.00.

Any person sending us the names of 25 subscribers with the money, will be entitled to one of these Splendid Sewing Machines. We will also state any Canvasser who undertakes, and does not succeed in getting up the full club of 25 Subscribers may add \$1.00 for each Subscriber short and still get the machine; for instance if the Canvasser only gets 20 subscribers, he can forward them with \$5.00 in money and he will receive the Machine; and we will further add if some of the subscribers choose to pay for 2 or 3 years, or more in advance, each year will count as a Subscriber. We hope our farmers' sons who at this time of the year, have plenty of spare moments will undertake this liberal offer. And they can also state that we give a Premium to each Subscriber.

POWELL'S FERTILIZERS, Manufactured by Brown Chemical Co., Baltimore, is the title of a unique, well-printed and elegant catalogue. It not only sets forth the value and aims of the several manures, compounded, but it gives a compendium of the chief farm work to be done monthly, as well as excellent hints in regard to poultry, the vegetable garden, floriculture, fruit garden and orchard, for every month in the year. Thus, it is a valuable *vade mecum* to every farmer, who wishes to become an accomplished and practical agriculturist. We trust this house will continue to receive the patronage it heretofore has, and does deserve.

APOLOGY.—We have several very practical articles on hand that are crowded out for want of space. Mrs. "M. A. G." and "A." are among our valued contributors, who are left out, but such articles will keep and are always appropriate to the subject they treat upon.

Farmers!! Attention!!

Such is the happy change of late that has come over the farmers for reading Agricultural Works and Periodicals, that they may obtain intellectual enjoyment at the same time gain knowledge from the experience of their fellow farmers as to the best culture of farm products and the steady improvement in the fertility of the soil, we have concluded to club with several leading Literary and Agricultural Journals for the next year, so that our readers may have the opportunity to obtain at the lowest possible cost the benefit of other Journals with our own, hence we ask special attention to the following:

The Breeders Weekly Gazette, Chicago, Ill., price \$3.00; with Maryland Farmer, \$3.25.

American Angler, price \$3.00; with Maryland Farmer, \$3.25.

Live Stock Monthly, Portland, Me., price \$1.50; with Maryland Farmer, \$2.00.

Poultry Yard, Hartford, Conn., price \$1.50; with Maryland Farmer, \$2.00.

☛ All payable in advance.

THE MARYLAND FARMER, only \$1.00 a year, including premium worth 50 cents, making it the cheapest agricultural paper in the country.

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